THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXXVIII.
NUMBER 17.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1891.

Per Annum in Advance
TOWN 11-8
MOFUSSIL 13-4

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Summary of News.

Monday, 20th April.

CERTAIN reports which have appeared in the Calcutta papers to the contrary notwithstanding, we are able to state, says the *Pioneer*, on the very best authority that the Chief Commissionership of Assam, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Quinton, will be conferred on Mr. Ward, C. S. I., now Judicial Commissioner in Rangoon, who will take up the appointment early in the ensuing month.

At a preliminary meeting held at Allahabad on Thursday (April 16), it was the unanimous opinion of those present that to perpetuate Mr. Quinton's memory and to express the deep and affectionate regret felt at his loss, a bust should be placed in the Convocation Hall of the Allahabad University, with the inception of which Mr. Quinton was very closely associated, and a memorial tablet in Christ Church, Lucknow. It was decided to invite and await suggestions and advice before appointing a Committee to carry out these objects. The Hon'ble J. R. Reid, C. S., has kindly consented to receive communications, and to call a meeting at Naini Tal in the course of next month, for considering such suggestions as may be made and finally deciding on the action to be taken.

Speaking of the settlement with Manipur, the *Pioneer* observes:—"The word annexation has, as we all know, a particularly exasperating effect on a certain school of English politicans who would be more moved by any success of our arms or diplomacy abroad than by the news of the late tragedy, and this may have its weight with the Home authorities, who will of course have the final say in the matter. But whether the word is annexation, or whether it will be agreed to substitute some diplomatic expression, the independence of the Manipur State will surely, we must suppose, have to give way to some form of government that will imply complete British control and ascendancy."

IN the course of his speech at the farewell dinner given to him at Simla, Sir George Chesney referring to the present political situation said:

> The events which are happening arround us—the catastrophe which has filled the hearts of all of us with horror and indignation, which leaves almost every one of us to lament the loss of personal friends, the able and trusted high official, the gallant officers done to death by treacherous murder—this and the events now occurring at the other extremity of the Empire come at this moment to point a significant moral. For in the piping times of peace, when all is quiet, the advocates of military forethought and military efficiency work under difficulties. What they deem prudence is dubbed military extravagance; they find themseves set down as alarmists; financial considerations and the bogieman get the upper hand. Well, gentlemen, events such as these, lamentable though they be, will not be without their use if the warning they convey is taken to heart, if they remind us, what in peace time is apt to beforgotten, that in India nothing is to be looked for but the unexpected; that, disguise the truth under what platitudes we may, we hold India by the sword, and that the peace and safety of the Empire are to be found only in being always prepared for war. And what constitutes the proper standard of preparation is the problem, the right solution of which is the constant subject of debate. Now the officers at Army head-quarters and of the Military Department could tell you how the army is strained to meet the demands made on it at this moment; how to provide the columns now marching towards the east and towards the west; troops have to be set in motion throughout the length and breadth of the country to replace the garrisons at all the obligatory points which must be held. Yet what are these demands on the army compared with those which will be made on it when the great day comes of whose advent we have the warning as the deep shadow already cast upon the frontier grows ever broader? I need not point the moral further, let us hope that it will be taken to heart by all concerned."

THE 34th Battery, Royal Artillery, stationed at Portsmouth, refused on Saturday last to attend a parade which had been ordered for that day, on the ground of the excessive drills they had been subjected to. The officers were powerless to enforce order, but finally the Colonel induced the men to parade. The oldest soldiers in the battery have been arrested, and will be court-martialled.

Tuesday, 21st April.

SURELY, women, in their ardour for work, could have found a less overcrowded profession than the law for their attention. Now they want to be solicitors, although, says the *Financial News*, "we are bound to say that the demand does not come from any representative body of women; chiefly from certain hysterical newspaper scribes who are clamouring for the admission of a particular lady, who for several years was the chief assistant of her father, a country solicitor, and now wishes to succeed to his business. The claim is vigorously, and very properly, resisted by the profession. Law, indeed, wants hard heads and sometimes hard hearts; and women are deficient, at any rate, in one of these respects traditionally."

CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Egyptian exiles in Ceylon has been presented to Parliament, and shows that in June last a memorial was received from Arabi Pasha and the other Egyptian exiles in Ceylon praying for their restoration to Eygpt on the ground that the climate of Ceylon is prejudicial to their health, and asking also that they should be allowed to retain the allowances at present made to them, the [illegible] being acccompained by medical certificat[illegible]ne Khedive was consulted on the matter, and dec[illegible] that it would be impossible for him to consent to such transfer in view of the very bad effect which their presence in the country would produce. It was further pointed out that the exiles were pardoned and allowances granted to them on the express condition that they should remain interned at some distant spot, such as the island of Ceylon. At the request of the Foreign Office a medical board was appointed by the Governor of Ceylon to inquire into the condition of the exiles; the opinion of this board, after taking evidence, being that the climate of Ceylon had exercised no injurious effect on the health of the exiles, and that any change of climate required for the benefit of their health could be had in Ceylon itself. The last despatch announces that, under these circumstances Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to remove the exiles from the island.

THE following *Gazette* Notification is dated, Simla the 16th April:—'The Governor-General in Council, has received with the deepest regret confirmation which leaves no room for doubt of the news of the cruel and teacherous murder at Manipur, on the night of the 24th ultimo, of Mr. J. W. Quinton, C.S.I., Chief Commissioner of Assam, and the following officers who accompanied him under a flag of truce from the Residency to the Palace of the Regent of Manipur: Lieuteuant-Colonel C. McDowal Skene, D. S. O., Commanding the 42nd (Gurkha) Regiment of Bengal Light Infantry; Mr. F. St. Clair Grimwood, Indian Civil Service, Political Agent in Manipur; Lieutenant W. H. Simpson, Wing Officer, 43rd (Gurkha) Regiment Light Infantry; Mr. W. H. Cossins, Indian Civil Service, Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam. Besides these it has been reported that Mr. W. B. Melville, Superintendent of Telegraphs, Assam Division, and a Signaller, Mr. O'Brien, who accompanied him, were also murdered by the Manipuri rebels at Mayongkhong on the road between Manipur and Kohima.'

'IN Mr. Quinton' the Notification goes on to remark, 'the State has lost a public servant of long service and varied experience, who had filled with distinction many high and important posts to the complete satisfaction of the Government of India. Colonel Skene was an officer of long and highly distinguished service, who had passed the greater portion of his career on the Assam Frontier. Mr. Grimwood had been attached to the Assam Commission since 1878, and had held the Office of Political Agent in Manipur since April 1889. The Governor General in Council has taken the necessary steps to exact full and signal retribution for this atrocious outrage, and troops are now converging on Manipur from Burma, Cachar and Kohima with this object.'

MR. Parnell addressed a great public meeting at, Mayo, when he declared that the Land Purchase Bill would reduce the rents in Ireland by forty per cent. He denounced the action of Mr. McCarthy's party in supporting Mr. Morley's amendment to the Bill, and rejoiced that he and his colleagues had defeated their traitorous plots.

A Baronetcy has been conferred upon Sir James Stephen in recognition of his services as a Judge.

Wednesday, 22nd April.

As Babu Brajabullub Dutta, M. A., a very experienced and talented Professor of Science and Mathematics, of Rajshaye College, was performing on Thrusday last what is well known to be a difficult experiment with ether and sulphuric acid, an explosion occurred. The boiling sulphuric acid was blown into the Professor's face. The Principal, Professors, and Librarian, at once exerted themselves to relieve the sufferer. The Civil Surgeon, Dr. Mullen, and Dr. Haldar, the College Surgeon, were promptly in attendance, and, thanks to their care and skill, it is hoped that the patient's sight will be saved. The accident occurred on the very day on which the College was being congratulated for its unusual success in science in the recent B. A. Examination, that success being largely due to the excellent teaching of the senior lecturer in Science, Babu Kumadini Kanta Banerjee, M. A., and to his colleague the afflcted sufferer in the present case.—*Englishman.*

THE German Ambassador was insulted at Paris the other day. His carriage was passing the place where bread rations were being issued to the soldiers of reserve, when a soldier threw a loaf which struck the Ambassador's coachman.

THERE was recently launched from the Baltimore ship-yard a new form of steamship. It is stated to be a sea-going vessel solely for passenger traffic. The builders assert that she can neither burn nor sink even if upset and that she has in a high degree the property of righting herself. The Reel weighs thirty-five tons, and acts not only as ballast, but as a centre board. Nearly half its depth protrudes through the hull into the water. The motive power is an improved compound engine, calculated to develop 1,600 horse power, which would drive a ship at an average speed of twenty-five miles an hour. The consumption of coal is very small. It is proposed to run ships of this class between Baltimore and Havana, carrying passengers, mails, and parcels only. A regular ocean steamship line will subsequently be started.

ONE of the most interesting questions relating to our planet, says Professor G. P. Serviss, is that of its interior constitution. Observations made in deep mines and borings indicate that the temperature increases as we go downward at the average rate of one degree Fahr. for every 55 feet of descent, so that, if this rate of increase continued, the temperature at the depth of a mile would be more than 100 degrees higher than at the surface, and, at the depth of forty miles, would be so high that everything, including the the metals, would be in a fluid condition. This view of the condition of the earth's interior has been adopted by many, who hold that the crust of the earth on which we dwell is like a shell surrounding the molten interior. But calculations based upon the tidal effects that the attraction of the sun and moon would have upon a globe with a liquid interior have led Sir William, Thomson and others to assert that such a condition is impossible, and that the interior of the earth must be solid and exceedingly rigid to its very centre. To the objections that the phenomena of volcanoes contradict the assumption of a solid interior, it is replied that unquestionably the heat is at a very great depth beneath the surface, and that reservoirs of molten rock exist under volcanic districts, but that taking the earth's interior as a whole, the pressure is so great that the tendency to liquefaction caused by that heat is over-balanced thereby. The whole question, however, is yet an open one.

AT a late sitting of the Paris Academy of Sciences, M. Mascart reported that at the summit of the Eiffel tower the registered velocity of the wind during a recent gale was at one time 630 miles an hour. He remarked that, had such a velocity existed at a lower altitude, every chimney in Paris would have been blown down. The wind soon took a vertical and upward direction, which he regarded as a proof of the upward movement of the air during great depression.

THE celebrated breach of promise case brought by Miss Gladys Evelyn, actress, against Mr. Hurlbert, writer and journalist, in which the plaintiff claimed ten thousand pounds damages, has ended in a verdict being found for the defendant, who in his defence pleaded that this was a case of mistaken indentity.

Thursday, 23rd April

THERE is a great deal of talk among the Russian superior officers about a possible early war with Germany; and in reviewing the conditions under which such a terrible struggle will take place, they seem to place great confidence in their Polish fortresses. These fortresses are, it is true, very formidable, but there is good ground for believing that they might easily become death-traps for the army, and that, although victory might attend Russian armies in the end, it would be after numerous serious reverses, amounting to disasters in the early stage of the conflict—reverses which are inevitable in the case of a country which never organises its resources really well or efficiently until it is too late. The Russian Generals also rely to a great extent upon the probable effects of a sudden invasion of Germany by the hordes of cavalry regiments which they have at their disposal in Poland, and which would be let loose with a roving commission to devastate the invaded German territory in every direction.

A large steel sailing vessel has recently been built in Norway among whose fittings is a patent oil distributer, by which oil can be thrown upon the waves during severe storms. Within the vessel there is an iron reservoir from which a pipe extends alongside of the vessel near the water line and as close to the bow as possible. A valve in the pipe close to the reservoir regulates the distribution of the oil. This is probably the first case in which provision for throwing oil upon the waves has been made from the first designing and building of a vessel.

Babu Jogendra Nath Bose, zemindar of Khulsani, Chandernagore, has placed the sum of Rs. 5,000 in the hands of the District Board of Hoogly for metalling and other improvements of the road running from the E. I. Railway Station at Chandernagore and Bazra, a village about five miles off. It was a long felt want, and Babu Jogendra Nath deserves the best thanks of the local community for his generous gift. The President of the District Board, in acknowledging the gift, has expressed his personal pleasure at this instance of public spirit and liberality. The road will henceforth be known as Nilratan Bose's road, the name of the deceased father of the donor.

In the Bombay Police Court a Nawab of Hyderabad, Mahomed Askari Khan, laid an information against three sons of the Nawabs Azum Jung, Jilum Khan and Coliloola Khan, charging them with having, in 1884, stolen jewellery from his house, valued at seven-and-half lakhs of rupees. For years past the theft had been involved in mystery, but lately part of the stolen jewellery was offered for sale, and through enquiries those concerned were discovered. Azim Khan was placed before the Magistrate and released on bail, on his personal security of Rs. 50,000 and one surety of Rs. 20,000, pending the arrest of the other two concerned.

RAJA GOVINDLAL RAY, of Tajhat, has subscribed Rs. 1,000 towards the expenses incurred in checking the cholera epidemic in the Rangpur District.

MR. Ward, Judicial Commissioner of Lower Burma, and Chief Commissioner elect for Assam, sat on Monday as Commissioner, appointed by the Viceroy in Council to hear the charges against Mr. Duke, late Deputy Commissioner of Pegu, arising out of what is now known as the Pegu Bribery Case. One letter to Mr. Moylan, read by Mr. Fox, contained the following passage:—"I trust that as Taroke Pyu has agreed to this (that is the compromise) you will let the matter end. To prevent a repetition of this I have ordered Oung Bah to leave the district. The prosecution does not say that the money reached Mr. Duke, but according to Oung Bah's story to Taroke Pyu it was given to Mr. Duke's mistress. Mr. Duke's defence, as given by him to the local Government, runs thus:—"My reasons for not prosecuting Oung Bah were, that when I examined him in the presence of Taroke Pyu he stated that the money was made over to him to engage a pleader; and as Taroke Pyu did not deny this, and as he refused to prosecute, I, considering the matter a purely civil one, allowed them to settle it between themselves." He then goes on to admit that the letter to Mr. Moylan was carelessly worded and was written in great haste:—"My reason for ordering Oung Bah to leave the district was to prevent a repetition of these charges." Taroke Pyu was examined, and detailed the circumstances under which Oung Bah induced him to give the latter Rs. 1,140 on the representation that he could bribe Mr. Duke to acquit the relative of Taroke Pyu accused of dacoity.

THE Bombay case in which Bachoo Haji Abdulla stood charged with murdering five persons, and also with inciting Dawood Abajee, a cook, to administer poison to the deceased, has been brought to a close at the Criminal Sessions, before Sir Charles Sargent, Chief justice, and a special jury. The trial, which occupied five full days, created a great deal of interest. The extreme penalty of the law has been passed upon the prisoner.

Friday, 24th April.

THERE a possibility that the Manipur murders were committed by Kukies or Nagas, and that it was they who mutilated the bodies. These people can seldom resist such a temptation, human trophies being considered of the highest value.

IT is stated that in the manufacture of its scents Grasse uses no less than 1,200 tons of orange-blossoms, 800 tons of roses, 200 tons of jasmine, 100 tons of violets, and 250 tons of tuberroses annually. The place has an altitude of 1060 ft. above the sea, and has been occupied as a place of residence for upwards of two thousand years.

THE writer of the weekly review of "Indian Affairs" in the *Times* says of the Factory Act recently passed by the Viceroy's Council, that "it goes as far as the evidence collected by the Indian Factories Commission warrants, while it resists any attempt to force the existing system of Indian labour into foreign or English methods. Such attempts would lead to a serious agitation in India, compared with which the opposition of the Age of Consent Bill would be a trifle."

MESSRS. W. H. ALLEN & Co., will publish shortly some "Sketches of Distinguished Indian Women" by Mrs. E. F. Chapman, with a preface by the Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava. The sketches include the following:—The Pundita Ramabai Saraswati, Dr. Anandabai Joshee, the Maharani of Kuch Behar, Toru Dutt, and Cornelia Sorabje. Lady Dufferin says in her preface:—"I am sure this little book will be read with interest by everyone who takes it up; while to those who have thought of Indian women, or who have worked for their welfare in any way, it will come as a message of hope and encouragement, and as such will give them unmitigated pleasure." These are other "distinguished Indian women" whose names we do not find mentioned in connection with these Sketches.

TRANSFRONTIER intelligence regarding the attitude of the tribes on the Miranzai frontier has reached Lahore to the effect that a jirga was held by the Mula Khels, Ala Khels, Akhels (in Shaikhan) Muhammadzais, Ali Sherzais, and the Afridis of Tirah, at which an agreement was arrived at to assist the tribes now holding the Samana range if they are attacked. It is also stated that Sarwar Khan, *alias* Chikai, a well known freebooter, who lately entered the Amir's service, has been written to for assistance. That the disturbance on the Miranzai border is also unsettling the Afridi tribes further north appears from the fact that a large body of the Aka Khel Afridis are said to have been indulging in raids, carrying off about 50 sheep and camels and killing two men and wounding a third.

BIG walking feats seem to be the rage. The other day a woman won twenty thousand dollars in prizes and bets in walking from San Francisco to New York. This tramp was not done at top speed, but occupied three months and a half, the lady leaving California on November 6. But an even more remarkable performance is, according to the *Sportsman*, promised by a Russian captain of gendarmerie, who has determined to outdo his fellow-countrymen who have tramped, bicycled, or stilted huge distances by covering the distance from Vladivostock, on the Pacific, to Paris on all fours. The warrior calculates that allowing for wear and tear of the palms of his hands and his knees he will arrive at the Place de la Concorde on April 1, 93, in exactly two years' time, when after sufficient rest he will return to Vladivostock on all fours, only this time backwards.

IT is probable that the New Orleans lynching dispute will be settled by the payment of an indemnity to the victims. A private telegram from Europe points in this direction, although in the latest Italian note Louisiana was called upon to arrest the ringleaders.

CHILLIBAGH, eleven miles from the frontier station of Kohat, garrisoned by 200 sepoys was on Wednesday night surrounded by a large body of the enemy, and fighting continued for some hours. A large gathering of tribesmen is visible about three miles distant. More fighting is shortly expected.

THE Government of India appears to have changed its mind about the sixth judgeship of the Madras High Court, and to have decided not to oppose the temporary re-appointment of Mr. Justice Handley which had been so strongly urged by the Government of Madras and the High Court. The Madras High, Court petitioned the Secretary of State that the Government of India should not interfere with it pending legislation regarding the extension of the jurisdiction of the Small Cause Court.

Saturday, 25th April.

MR. Goschen's Budget Statement is one of unusual prosperity brought forward. The revenue for the past year had exceeded the estimates by £1,880,000, the increase from alcohol being £900,000. The National Debt had been reduced during the year by £6,500,000, the increase in revenue for the coming year would amount to £1,500,000, and the surplus is expected to reach nearly £2,000,000, half of which should be devoted to the making of education free after the 1st of September, £500,000 to the increasing of barrack accommodation, and the remainder to the withdrawal of light gold from circulation. What a contrast budget-makers find alas in India. The Liberal organs agree that the statement implies the early dissolution of Parliament, and that free education will be the election cry on which the Government will go to the country. The *Standard* regrets that a million of money is to be squandered on free education, the demand for which, it says, is spurious.

GREAT excitement prevails throughout Cape Colony owing to the news that five thousand Boers from the Transvaal are arranging to make a trip into Mashonaland. Sir Henry Loch, the High Commissioner, has telegraphed to President Kruger of the Transvaal, that her Majesty's Government will regard this movement as an act of hostility. President Kruger replied, stating that he had stopped the trip, and summoned the suspected leaders to Pretoria.

ADVICES have been received at Lisbon, of a serious Native insurrection on the island of Bissao, a Portuguese settlement of West Africa. The rebels have hoisted the French flag, and have totally defeated the Portuguese force sent against them, the latter losing ninety-six killed besides two guns. Reinforcements are being despatched to the scene of action.

IT is understood that Lord Salisbury will only remonstrate with the Portuguese Government for the outrage upon the British party at Beira, and, as a consequence, great bitterness is manifested against the British Government. A mass meeting has been summoned at Cape town to protest against the inaction of the Imperial authorities, and the papers already talk of lowering the British flag in South Africa.

LORD Salisbury has sent a despatch to the Portuguese Government demanding explanations regarding the outrage on the British subjects at Beira. His Lordship will await Portugal's reply before deciding what action Great Britain will take in the matter. The *Times* says that the political situation in Portugal at present is highly critical, and the lives of the British residents there would not be safe in case of a revolution, as protection from the Portuguese Government could not be relied on.

THE Portuguese Government, replying to Lord Salisbury's despatch regarding the outrage on British subjects at Beira, assures his Lordship of the freedom of the Pungwe River, and says that the necessary orders to that effect have been despatched to Beira. Sir John Willoughby, who was at the head of the party fired upon by the Portuguese, admits that they had arms on board the *Agnes*, but only carried a few.

'Now that the Superintendent of Census Operations has begun to systematically tabulate his returns and gather together material for the Report,' says the *Madras Mail*, 'it is earnestly to be hoped that the Madras Government will issue orders for the compilation of special statistics with reference to the pariahs, or "depressed classes of South India," as they are called with delicious frankness in the last Census Report. It is believed that for the comparatively paltry sum of Rs. 1,000 statistics on all important points in connection with them could be obtained and compiled by the present Census staff. This being so it would be regrettable indeed if Government missed the opportunity afforded it of collecting the information that is necessary for a reliable diognosis of their present unhappy condition. In the Census Reports for 1871 and 1881 the pariahs appear to have been treated in the most contemptuous fashion, and the student of Hindu sociology might as well look in the Doomsday Book for all the real knowledge he can derive therefrom about this class of the community. Even the Madras Manual of Administration, published four years after the Census of 1881, has to confess that "so little is known of the out-castes by the Hindus generally that it is almost impossible to obtain at the present moment a trustworthy account of their organisation." And this in spite of the fact that they number in all some 16 per cent of the total population of the Presidency, being thus four times as numerous as the Brahmins, while in the country immediately surrounding Madras they number about one-quarter of the total population. But statistics showing their general distribution and total numbers are not all that is wanted, and we repeat that it would be well if Government would authorise the expenditure of the sum required to supplement them.'

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The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1891.

THE MANIPUR DISASTER.

IT is impossible for us to postpone any longer an examination of the Government policy in its late interference with the internal affairs of Manipur, and we propose to take into consideration that subject to-day. In doing so, however, we regret deeply that we have got no declaration from the Government itself of the scope and intention of its late movement with regard to Manipur; and have to be guided solely by the light of facts which have come to our knowledge by other means. The late ill-fated action of Mr. Quinton with suite and escort at Manipur had evidently a political object in view. Most probably, it was to reconstitute the Government of that country by some changes in its present form. The armed force of about 500 men, with an appropriate number of leaders, goes further to prove that that change was of such a nature as was likely to meet with strong opposition, to overcome which an armed force might be necessary. The change contemplated must have been, therefore, violent, nothing short of the deposition of the ruling king, and of capturing and removing from power the next great powerful man of the State. What motive the Government could have in effecting these violent changes in a State with whose internal affairs it had no direct connection, it is difficult to determine. Most probably, it intended to set up the ex-Maharaja, who is at present an exile in Calcutta, and a supplicant at the door of the Viceroy, again on the throne. But whatever the motive might be, the step taken by the Government was a most injudicious one. Manipur is, to all intents and purposes, an independent State. The history of the relations of that country to the British Government in India shows nothing to justify the conclusion that the former is in any way dependent on the latter. We shall trace that history shortly. In 1762, when Jai Singh, the then Raja of Manipur, was hard pressed by the Burmese, he entered into a treaty of alliance, offensive and defensive, with the British Government, and this treaty was subsequently confirmed. At the close of the First Burmese war in 1826, the famous treaty of Yandaboo was drawn up, by which it was stipulated, among other things, that the king of Ava should recognise the independence of Manipur. In the year 1833, an agreement was entered into between the British Government and Raja Gumbhir Singh, by which it was provided, among other things, that there should be freedom of trade between the two countries, and that the Raja should assist the British Government with a portion of his troops, in case of disturbances on the North Eastern frontier. In 1834 an agreement was entered into, by which the Kubo valley was transferred from Manipur to Burmah, the British Government making the Raja, a monthly money-payment by way of compensation. There is nothing in these treaties to show that the Government of India, in dealing with the Raja of Manipur, dealt in any other way than with an independent sovereign. During the Civil wars that have been raging in Manipur for the last quarter of a century, in which one man after another has been set up on the throne, the Government has throughout recognised the *de facto* Raja for the time being. This also shows that Manipur has been dealt with as an independent State. In the light of these facts it clearly appears, that the late attempt of the Indian Government to interfere with the affairs of Manipur, was against all precedent and not justifiable.

The fundamental principle of international law is that nations are equal in respect to each other and entitled to claim equal consideration for their rights. As a corollary from this principle it follows, that each nation has a right to govern itself as it thinks proper, but that no one nation is entitled to dictate to another a form of Government or religion or a course of internal policy; nor *is any State entitled to take cognisance or notice of the domestic administration of another State or of what passes within it between the Government and its own subjects.* This is the doctrine of non-intervention, of which there are few exceptions and those under the most exceptional circumstances. Professor Bernard observes: "Even when intervention produces an apparent good, as by removing a tyrant, substituting a humane for a cruel Government, or putting a stop to the effusion of blood, it encourges a proneness to violent measures that are only justifiable in cases of extreme necessity; destroys national self-respect and self-reliance; and interrupts the natural process by which political institutions are matured through the ripening of political ideas and habits." Heffter also says, that "however blame-worthy may be the conduct of any sovereign, so long as it does no injury nor in any way threatens the rights of other sovereigns, it affords no plea for intervention." These propositions, we make bold to affirm, go without challenge. It cannot perhaps be contended, with any show of decency or logic, that the principles of international law are one thing in the West and another thing in the East. Nor will it perhaps be said that the present interference of the British Government with the independent State of Manipur falls within the few exceptions to the principle of non-intervention referred to above. The exceptions would arise only when the actions of one State are of so violent and aggressive a nature, as to give rise to a reasonable apprehension that the peace, prosperity or the relations with other countries of another State, are likely to be disturbed. But in the present case, the late disturbances in Manipur, in connection with the deposition of the ex-Maharajah, being purely internal, could give rise to no reasonable apprehension to the British Government, that its peace and prosperity or its relations with other countries would be in any way disturbed. Thus it would appear that the policy of the Government was a breach of international law.

The project formed for carrying out the purpose of the Government plan was as unjustifiable as its policy. We do not yet positively know who were the definite persons whom Mr. Quinton was deputed to capture or depose. The *Englishman* says that a deliberate plan had been formed to surprise and capture the Juvaraj of Manipur at the Durbar which he was invited to attend by the Chief Commissioner of Assam. If there is any truth in this statement, what wonder was there that the Juvaraj should be continually absenting himself from it? Who would like to offer himself a willing prey to the hungry lion? Neither was there any wonder that open preparations for war, offensive and defensive, were made by the Juvaraj, for they were but in response to preparations too clear and definite for him to mistake. As for who took the offensive first, we have clear evidence that the English first opened fire on the Juvaraj's palace on the morning of the 24th March. This attitude of aggression and threat combined exasperated the Manipuris and the Juvaraj, and led them to commit the outrages they did commit. We do not for a moment try to extenuate the treachery and cruelty of the manner in which the Juvaraj acted towards Mr. Quinton and his party, who went to meet him in the gateway of his palace, under a flag of truce and under a sense of security raised by his own assurance. For this, we strongly urge to have due punishment meted out to him and his immediate accomplices. But in so far as we think our own Government to have been mistaken in its policy and aggressive in its measures, and therefore to have been the prime mover of these disastrous incidents, we should strongly disapprove of wholesale punishment being mercilessly dealt out to the whole Manipur people, under a misguided feeling of revenge. The imposing military preparations that are being made, and the numerous detachments that are being sent to Manipur every day, may, we hope, be intended more to overawe the Burmese people, so that they may give up peaceably the real culprits into the hands of the English, than to be a prologue to a drama of war and bloodshed, ending with an epilogue of the annexation of a free country. We earnestly implore the Government not to allow more blood being shed or more suffering inflicted than has been due or a greater crime committed in punishing a smaller one.

THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN INDIAN FACTORIES.

WE have in a recent issue briefly referred to the new Factory Act which was passed on the 19th ultimo; but the subject is so important that it deserves a more extended consideration. There can be no doubt whatever that in so far as this legislation is based on the recommendations of the Factory Commission it will commend itself to the judgment of the public. But in one or two respects the new Act goes beyond those recommendations and is founded on the resolutions of the Berlin Conference. The provisions which go beyond the proposals of the Commission are those which relate to the employment of men. There is good reason to doubt whether these provisions will be beneficial to those for whose good they are intended. The Hon'ble Mr. Nugent, of the Bombay Civil Service, who is well acquainted with the conditions of factory labour in his own province, made some very sensible and pertinent observations on this point in his place in the Legislative Council. He said:—"That eleven hours of actual work ordinarily constitute a sufficient daily task for a woman is probably the case, and I believe that as a matter of fact few women in Indian cotton and jute mills work longer; but it seems questionable whether in the interests of the women themselves it is desirable to draw a hard-and-fast line limiting to a precise number of hours the time any woman may work in a day. A woman paid by the piece, that is, by results, may occasionally wish to work beyond eleven hours, but under the proposed legislation this she would be unable to do. If, however, a line is to be drawn and a female adult hand is not to be permitted to exercise her own discretion, and to be a free agent in disposing of her own labour, then eleven hours of daily actual work would appear to be a reasonable limit, very nearly in accordance with actual practice in the great majority of instances. But in my opinion a much stronger objection exists to the proposed compulsory grant of intervals of rest, amounting in the aggregate to one-and-a-half hours per diem, to women actually employed for eleven hours. This goes beyond the proposal contained in the original Bill, and also beyond the recommendations of the Commission, and is founded on one of the resolutions of the Berlin Conference." The original Bill merely proposed to limit the hours of employment for women to eleven hours a day. The Factory Commissioners accepted the view that eleven hours is a proper and sufficient working day for adult female hands, but they considered that, if the hours of labour were so limited for women working with moving machinery, the effect might be to deprive them of employment. The new Act maintains the limitation of eleven hours' actual work, but provides, in accordance with the recommendations of the Berlin Conference, that this period of work shall be broken by rests of a total duration of one-and-a half hours at least, with exception for certain industries.

Let us now consider what the practical effect of this provision is likely to be. It extends the day to 12½ hours, and Sir Andrew Scoble expressed the hope that the operation of the law would not be found to interfere with the employment of women, who, under present arrangements, find it possible to take frequent spells of rest though employed as full-timers. It is true that women, under the arrangements which have hitherto existed, were allowed to leave their work for a few minutes at a time, whenever they had occasion either to take food, to smoke, to have a talk, or for any other purpose, and it is probable that their casual absences from work amounted in the aggregate to an hour or an hour-and-a half daily; but the compulsory

grant of prescribed intervals of rest at fixed times is a quite different matter. It must not be forgotten that the Factory Commission reported that beyond the half hour in the middle of the day for taking meals no other compulsory time for rest is required. Mr. Nugent observed:—"The one-and-a-half hours' rest is now apparently to be given in India because the Berlin Conference, dealing with the question of female labour in wholly different circumstances and in another continent, deemed that female factory hands in Europe ought to be allowed that amount of rest daily. One result, I may point out, will be that in the Bombay Presidency at all events, and indeed in every part of India where artificial light is not used in factories—and I believe it is employed only in Calcutta, and there only in some cotton-spinning mills—during some of the winter months women will be unable to do eleven or even ten hours of actual work in the day. This measure, therefore, as curtailing their earnings, and interfering with freedom of action, and as necessitating the introduction of stricter discipline in mill-rooms, is likely to prove a source rather of harm than of advantage to the persons it is nominally intended to benefit. The prohibition of the employment of children at night is clearly advisable for the due protection of their health, but I fail to perceive any adequate reason for preventing women from working in the evening and at night by artificial light, provided always that the number of hours for which they are actually worked does not exceed the maximum number permissible by law. It is of course impossible for any woman to work all night and also all day. If she is engaged in a factory all day, she cannot labour also throughout the night; but, seeing that it gives her option she probably would prefer during the hot season to work by night and sleep by day, I cannot understand why she should be precluded by law from acting according to her own inclinations and convenience. There is nothing inherently wrong or unhealthy in night work. As previously remarked, very few jute or cotton mills are worked after dark in India, but in cotton-presses and spinning factories in the Mufassil, which are worked only for a few months in the year, work has often to be carried on day and night to enable it to be accomplished in time, and in such instances the employment of women at night is essential, if they are to be employed at all." There is good reason to apprehend that the hope expressed by Sir Andrew Scoble will not be fulfilled and that the operation of the new Act will lead to the exclusion of women from employment in factories. This view, it should be remembered, is shared partially at least by the members of the Factory Commission, who state—"If the hours of labour are limited to eleven for women working with moving machinery, we are convinced that without any exception these operatives will be replaced by male adult operatives or half-time children. The law supposed to be passed for their benefit will inflict serious and permanent injury on these skilled mill-hands, and deprive them of the chance of earning a living at these factories." This new legislation, therefore, will be a cause of much harm and suffering. It will, as Mr. Nugent pointed out, drive thousands of industrious and deserving Native women out of the mills, where for years they have been thriving and earning far higher wages than any they could obtain by any other form of labour and leave them destitute and without occupation. Mr. Nugent continued:—"Dwellers new in towns, they have learnt a new and forgotten their old trades; they cannot dig; to beg they are ashamed; their livelihood will be lost; and the means of their families, to which they so largely contributed by their labour will be vastly reduced. Much misery and great distress will ensue, and a law nominally devised to be a blessing to the Indian female operatives will prove to them to be a curse. These only too probable results can hardly be regarded with any degree of satisfaction. The proposals contained in this Bill to which the greatest objection can, in my humble opinion, be taken as being those most calculated to produce this disastrous result are chiefly based on the resolutions of the Berlin Conference. I wish to speak with all due respect of that Conference and the gentlemen who composed it, but I cannot refrain from pointing out that to the best of my belief there was no representative of India at the Conference, and, as far as I am aware, no gentleman who attended it had any practical knowledge of this country, its industries and its conditions of labour. The conclusions of a body of experts conversant with European factory life, work and problems are naturally entitled to the greatest weight in all matters connected with factory administration in Europe; but that they are of equal weight when it comes to deal with questions of factory labour and economy in Asia, where the circumstances differ in *toto cælo* from those obtaining in Great Britain, France, Germany, Belgium and other European conntries, I am not prepared to admit. No comparison can be instituted between the habits and modes of life, standards of comfort, physical and mental powers, and circumstances of existence of an English mill-hand and an Indian operative. They are in all respects utterly dissimilar." We need hardly say that we subscribe to every word in the passage we have just quoted. Well did Mr. Mackay point out that a woman can earn four times in a factory what she can earn in a field; and that, as regards the relative hardships of the two conditions of life, if a Lancashire philanthropist had to choose between working on the roads under an April sun and tending a spinning frame in the shelter of a factory, he would rapidly run from the road and make for the mill.

Although the new Factory Act will seriously interfere with the employment of women in Indian factories, we thank our stars that a worse measure which would have been more injurious to the interests of the people of this country has not been forced on the Government of India. It was at the bidding of the cotton-lords of Lancashire that the import duties were abolished a few years ago to benefit the English manufacturer, and the odious Income tax was re-imposed to fill the gap caused by the remission of the duties. It was naturally apprehended that, in the matter ot factory legislation, India would be again sacrificed on the altar of English party politics. We are sincerely thankful that this apprehension has not been realised to the fullest extent, and that the Government of India have fought our battle with valour. We agree with Mr. Mackay in considering that the restrictions which have been placed both on employers and employed by the new Act are the utmost to which we should submit, and we also join with him in hoping that no attempt will be made to enhance them for many years to come.

A MUNICIPAL TEST CASE.

We shall present to our readers a typical case of Municipal *zulum* in which the aggrieved has got redress after much labour and expense. We have before us two judgments—one of the Subordinate Judge and another of the District Judge of Alipur, from which the following facts can be gathered. As the facts will speak for themselves without varnish, they have only to be stated in the lucid language of the judgment of Mr. G. B. Garrett, the then District Judge of Alipur, which was delivered on the 18th February last. Babu Hem Chunder Mukerji brought a suit against the Corporation which Mr. Garrett thus describes:—

The plaintiff who is a gentleman whose family has long held a good position in Calcutta, is the owner of a piece of tenanted land abutting on Cornwallis Street and situated between the old Mahratta ditch and canal.

It is clear that from a long time the rain-water that collected on his land was discharged through the Mahratta dich, and there is no dispute that if it was possible for him to acquire such an easement in respect of a ditch, which was excavated for purposes of State, and no one says it was not possible, then this defendant has enjoyed the easement sufficiently long to have acquired a title to it by prescription.

It appears that some time in 1888 the Mahratta ditch was handed over to the Calcutta Municipality in furtherance of the scheme by which the Calcutta and the Suburban Municipalities were amalgamated; immediately on acquiring the ditch the Municipality filled it up and advertised the site for sale. As a matter of fact owing to some legal difficulties the site has not as yet been sold; it is conceded that since the ditch has been filled up, the water from the plaintiff's land has been completely prevented from passing away by its old channel; it has also been proved that the plaintiff's land which was formerly well drained and convenient for habitation has, by this obstruction of the drainage, become swampy, and that the tenants after suffering in health are leaving the land. Under these circumstances, the plaintiff sues to have it declared that he has a right to have an outlet for the water collecting on his land over the Mahratta ditch, and that the defendants have no power to sell the ditch,

The Subordinate Judge, Babu Radhakrishna Sen admitted the "great hardship entailed on the plaintiff and that from the evidence on both sides, it has been clearly proved that the water of the plaintiff's land used to be drained through the portion of the Mahratta ditch described in the schedule, for a very long time, that the ditch was filled up by the Municipality about two years ago, and that, on acconnt of the ditch being filled up, water now accumulates in the plaintiff's land which causes great hardship to the tenants residing thereon" Strangely and unaccountably enough, however, he did not feel himself competent to find for the plaintiff and dismissed the suit with costs. His reasons for doing so are expressed as follows:—

The Corporation is a public body upon whom certain functions have been vested by the Legislature, and the conservancy and drainage of the town are among the duties of the Corporation. It also appears that the old Mahratta ditch formerly belonged to the Government, who made it over to the Corporation by a letter, dated the 28th of January 1888, Besides, under Section 272 of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act (Act II of 1888, B. C.) all public sewers and drains are vested in the Commissioners who came to a resolution at a Special General Meeting held on the 6th September 1888, that the land described in the schedule should be sold by public auction. This resolution was perfectly legal and cannot be questioned by the plaintiff. (See Section 397 of the Act). It is also clear from Sections 273, 288, 289, and 295 that the Commissioners may demolish or stop up any old drains *and provide new drains and channels in lieu thereof*. In fact they have complete control over the matter, and their action cannot be interfered with by the Court. The evidence also shows that the Corporation has erected underground sewers in the new road to the west of the plaintiff's land in the Cornwallis Street and in the Gailiffe Street. No doubt these sewers have not yet been completed, but the Assistant Engineer in charge of the drainage works under the Corporation states in his deposition that when the sewers are ready and the connections marked in red lines on the plan filed are effected, the plaintiff's land will be efficiently drained. Be that as it may, this Court cannot interfere with the discretion vested by law in the Corporation although in this case it seems to have acted in such a way as to entail great hardship on the plaintiffs.

The italics are ours, and Mr. Garrett's judgment which upset the finding of the Subordinate Judge, deals with the sufficiency of the *proviso* conveyed by the italics. He takes a broad and equitable view of the case and points out that the Subordinate Judge was weak enough to assume a state of things which does not exist. He says:—

I think that under Section 273 (B. C.) Act 11 of 1888 the Municipality has power to close any drain, but it is not permitted thereby to cause any nuisance, and for any person thus deprived of the lawful use of any drain or sewer, the Municipality must provide another as effectual for his use within 100 feet of his land. Now, it is clear that in this case this has not been done; no doubt certain drains have been set out, and the Assistant Engineer, Mr. Wintgens, says that when this scheme is carried out, the plaintiff's land will be efficiently drained, but although the Mahratta ditch was filled up in 1888, it is clear from Mr. Wintgens' evidence that in 1890 when he was giving his deposition, no effectual drainage had up to that date been provided for this land in substitution of the old drainage which it enjoyed through the Mahratta ditch, and there is no affidavit or anything else to show that, up to the present time, the inconveneince has been remedied.

The most amusing part of the case is an illustration of the homely adage of giving a dog a bad name and then hanging it, an art in which the Calcutta Corporation has shown itself a thorough adept and a past master. With a keen sense of humour Mr. Garrett observes:—

Meanwhile, the plaintiff's land has become a swamp, and by way of testifying to their sense of the injury which his land had sustained by their action, the Municipality served on the plaintiff a notice to abate the nuisance caused by the swampy condition of this piece of land.

The dramatic interest of the situation would be considerably heightened if Babu Hem Chunder Mukerji were criminally prosecuted and convicted for the nuisance and fine was levied by distraint and sale of his chattel. Officious zeal fell short of its duty in letting the matter rest with a tame and dull notice. Mr. Garrett could not deal with this matter and hence his

work came to end in a business-like way by pronouncing the following order :—

I think, therefore, that the plaintiff is entitled to the declaration which he claims, *viz.*, that the drain mentioned in the schedule forms the passage for the water out of his land, and that he has a right to such outflow of the water, and that the Municipality is not entitled to obstruct this passage, so as to prevent the outflow of the water from his land, thereby I think also that the plaintiff is entitled to the costs of this litigation with interest at 6 per cent.

The officer responsible for this unfortunate litigation ought, by way of an example, be made to pay its costs and not the rate-payers whose representatives certainly did not allow such reckless interference with private rights. The law requires, as Mr. Garrett clearly pointed out, that no nuisance should be committed by stoppage of any drain and there should be sufficient drainage within a hundred yards of the place affected. In this case nothing of the sort was done, and we do not know in how many or how many hundreds of other cases the Corporation has been guilty of similar sins of omission or rather commission. Every body affected by the filling up so large a tract like the Marhatta ditch cannot go to law, much less to the costs of appeal and so forth. It behoves the representatives of the rate-payers to enquire and see how many of these cases of unwarrantable interference have been perpetrated and how best to remedy the evil. We hope this will be done in the interest of sanitation as well as the private rights of those concerned. The Executive are naturally chagrined at the defeat and are anxious to carry the matter to the High Court. It came up for deliberation before the General Committee on Saturday before last. But nothing was done as the Chairman took time to call for the Engineer's report and to consider the matter.

THE ROCKS AHEAD.

WE think we have made it clear that the Consent Act will in the course of time tell seriously upon the indissolubility of Hindu Marriage. Let us for one moment turn from the immediate dangers of Police oppression and private malice; let us consider the wider future, and that in relation to the inner cravings of those who have clamoured for a king and obtained a king stork. They are opposed to infant marriage. They are satisfied at present with a legal prohibition against consummation of marriage before twelve years. They wish to put off married life till a more advanced age. So far we find fault not with them, but with their judgment. But let us now consider the following contingencies: Vivaha takes place at ten. Married life is put off for some years after twelve. The *bharjya* [supported,—wife] becomes recusant. The *bharta* [supporter—husband] marries again. Cases of this sort multiply. The recusant girl is left to remarry as a Vaishnab or a pervert Christianman. The Brahmo caste gets thinned. The legislature is again invoked saying: Brahmos are Hindus, but women of the kind under notice are forced into single-blessedness only through perversity of the Orthodox party. The cause of morality is at stake, owing to their templations: ergo, there should be a law for further marriage of these *Vivahita* Hindu Brahmo women. If we can thus look far enough into the future, we shall see the Hindus proper placed upon this dilemma:—They must either shake off—boycott—these Brahmo Hindus and leave them to their peculiar marriage law; or, they must accept further legislation and tolerate Hindu marriage to be renounced in the same way that it has been in the past by Vairagis and recently by Christian men. The Hindus proper may please themselves by their contemptuous hauteur. But Hindu Society and Hinduism will suffer if Hindus do not stir in time.

This would be a contingency very much against our mind. And we ask the Orthodox party to provide against it betimes. We have had enough of boy-cotting in the past: In the name of common sense let us Hindus henceforth keep united. We do not like to make fresh castes like Mahomedan and Christian castes. We do not like a new Brahmo caste. If we cannot persuade the Christians and other classes to take to *prayaschitta* in order to restore them into Society upon our own terms, we can do two things at the least. We can wait till these prodigal sons come back to home. And we can manage so that other sons should not go out into like vagrancy. Let us do that.

The heterodox Hindus are rushing into the sea, perhaps to the benefit of another class of people. Christ saved similar demoniacs and drove the swine into death. We do not like destruction and curse of that sort. The heterodox Hindus may, it is true, turn the simile against us. They may call us the swine of Gadara. That does not matter so long as the fundamental principles of Hinduism are safe. We want union and brotherhood, and have no objection to universality. But the principles can not be sacrificed. Hindu Marriage—even Hindu infant marriage—is founded upon principles. We want to save them. Let us understand them in order to save them. We cannot save the system, if we do not understand the principles.

We have two things to look after: the permanence of the marriage tie and the conditions of the joint family home. It is the fashion to say things both for and against Hindu joint family system. But we know that the problem is so difficult that no one is prepared with a definite scheme of reformation for the joint family system. We have in fact to wait for a suitable solution. Perhaps no solution will come until the Government ceases to keep us at arms' length. There is no knowing yet how the cloak of Sahebism works well or ill in this our transition stage. But when we will have ceased to hanker for the good opinion of England at the sacrifice of all our history and traditions, we shall know, whether or not the Hindu family shall be modelled like the castle of the *Sahib* and his *Ma'am*. That is a far question at this moment. And the solution of the joint family problem must keep in abeyance for some time. In other words, we may concentrate our attention and have to look only to one of the two things named above: We should now look only to the sanctity, that is, permanence, of the Hindu *Vivaha*. Our *Mantras* are intended to create a relation between man and woman which is not temporary and temporal, but whichis permanent—spiritual—indissoluble even by death. The *Pitris* whom we worship are never separated from their consorts. Even in re-incarnation the couple who are really married, retain their everlasting wedlock. Age is no question in Hindu marriage. Consent, contract, volition—free-will—are all irrelevant questions in our marriage vow and fit only to disclose the latent waywardness of intractable and undisciplined hearts.

If now a reckless legislature is pleased to tear up into shreds the spirituality and permanence conferred by our marriage *Mantras*, is it fit that we shall continue to utter the *abracadabra* before the fire, while we seek to hand down the precious element of marriage by mere tradition? We have done so in the past. *Kusandika*, *Dhruva Darsana* and *saptapadigamana* have become dwarfed by the growth of *Sampradan*. Let us preserve this last for the benefit of our posterity. Let us preserve it so that the mantras should mean the fact. Let *Sampradan* make a valid gift of the bride: Spare us ye Gods! the Christians giving away before the sacred altar. If *Vivaha* has become *bakdan* let us not make a mockery of *Sampradan*: let us not observe it at one date, meaning only to ratify it at another. Let us not by our neglect loosen the Hindu marriage bond altogether. Let the couple be tied into wedlock only when the tie shall be a truly binding one. Let *Dhruva darsan* be genuine, though the Vaidic sage has the joy of it.

Where it is intended that the woman shall be head of the family: Where in consequence the Hindu home, the zenana, and its now accustomed discipline must cease to be: There let infant marriage be given up simultaneously with Hindu marriage. But where woman, is not to be the mistress, but is intended to grow, from childhood, gradually into a *Grihini* (housewife), there the marriage tie should not be a dubious thing like what the friends of a Rukma Bai might be pleased to construe it into. That evil day should not be forced upon us by another revolutionary measure of the kind we have just experienced. We ought to provide against that sort of shipwreck. And with a view to this end, we ought to enquire and satisfy ourselves that what now remains of the sacred institution of *Vivaha* is the *Caput Mortuum* of a *bakdan*; and we have to provide for that mishap no less than for an uncertain veto from the Secretary of State or the House of Commons.

THE SAFE-GUARDS OF THE CONSENT ACT.

THAT the Consent Act is an evil and a mistake must be felt even by the Government of India. There was a question of *zid bajay*, and it has been solved to the satisfaction of the Government. We are glad to see it now laudably anxious to provide that the evils anticipated be not thickened. In this view it has addressed all local Governments a letter of which the following is a synopsis :—

The letter calls special attention to the observations made by his Excellency the Viceroy at the meeting of the Legislative Council at which the Bill was passed. Special stress is laid upon the following remarks of his Excellency: "A hope has been expressed that when this Bill has become law the Government of India will closely watch its operation with the object of ascertaining whether further safeguards are necessary in order to prevent its abuse. I gladly give the assurance for which we are asked. We shall cause the working of the measure to be watched with the utmost attention, and we shall be prepared, if the safeguards which we have already accepted should prove insufficient, to strengthen and add to them." In the correspondence on the subject with the Government of Bengal, the Viceroy states that he has no doubt that his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor will give such instructions to the magistrates of districts in Bengal as will ensure that the provisions of the Act are applied with due care and caution. The Government of India have full confidence in the discretion with which the experienced officers, to whom alone jurisdiction to enquire and commit for trial is left by the law will carry out its provisions, and are convinced that no action will be taken except on really trustworthy information, brought by responsible persons who may reasonably be presumed to have knowledge of the facts they assert to have occurred, and that no mere suspicion will be held sufficient to set the law in motion. Special attention is invited to the provisions of section 202 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which allows a magistrate when he sees reason to distrust the truth of a complaint made before him, to postpone the issue of process, and either enquire into the case himself, or order a local investigation by some officers subordinate to him. The Act allows such an investigation to be made by a police officer not lower in rank than an inspector; but the Government of India think it would be preferable, when an investigation has to be made in a case to which the Act applies, that it should be intrusted to some experienced native magistrate. The Governor-General in Council believes that this course would be more agreeable to the feelings of the people than that in so delicate a matter as this, the enquiry should be conducted either by the magistrate of the district himself, if a European, or by any officer of police. Commissioners of divisions should be specially instructed to watch the working of the Act, and to impress upon the District Officers subordinate to them the necessity, while giving full effect to the intentions of the Government of India in enacting the law, of applying it with the utmost care and discrimination. It would be convenient if these officers were to submit a report after the Act has been in operation for a year, for the information of the Local Government, showing whether any difficulties have attended its working. The Government of India will be glad to receive from the Government of Bengal a summary of the reports so submitted, with any remarks which His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor may think it necessary to make upon them. In forwarding the Government of India's letter to all Commisssioners and district officers the Lieutenant-Governor hopes they will attend very carefully to the suggestions made therein, and trust that the required report will be submitted punctually at the end of each year. On the appointment of a new officer to the charge of any district, Commissioners will specially draw his attention to the matter.

As for Sir Charles Elliott he spoke out openly in the Council that he would particularly instruct his magistrates to see that there was no abuse of the law. The present action of the Government of India will be somewhat re-assuring. Those who still point to isolated cases of brutality as necessitating the Consent law choose to forget that, as in a recent Bombay case, the old law has been perfectly sufficient to visit offenders with condign punishment. Harimaitism, Jacksonism, and DeCruisism are only different phases of crimes of the same black character, and it is egregious folly to draw hasty generalizations and condemn whole communities in the light of isolated cases or classes of cases.

Latest News and Notes.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor will visit Hoogly this week when the local Town Hall will be formally opened. His Honor does not leave for the Hills till the 1st proximo and his stay at Darjeeling is not expected to last for more than two months. In the Council meeting of Saturday before last, His Honor announced that the next session of the Council will be held in July or August next, which speaks much for the moderation of Sir Charles Elliott in the matter of these annual holidays. In these days of steadily increasing heat no one would grudge our rulers reasonable respite from work in the plains, and Sir Charles is evidently determined to set a praiseworthy example to all concerned by setting proper limits to what has justly come to be regarded as a scandal. Public opinion, both native and Anglo-Indian, has been very strong for sometime against those picnics lasting over two-thirds of the year and we must be all very glad that Sir Charles Elliott at all events does not propose to trifle with public opinion persistently and to the detriment of public weal.

TWO Courts for the exercise of Original Civil Jurisdiction will sit simultaneously after the termination of the Criminal Sessions. We do not know that there is any occasion for this, as there is a cry of dearth of business. Two Courts sitting together is sure to make a clean sweep of the Board ere long, which would not perhaps be unobjectionable if the Courts had a long summer holiday thereafter. Mr. Justice Hill will probably preside at the second court while Mr. Justice Wilson continues to preside at the first. Mr. Fink, the first Assistant Registrar of the Court, has gone on six months' leave, while young Mr. Orr, a son of the Solicitor, officiates for him.

MR. GORDON LEITH, officiating Deputy Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, has been appointed to act, temporarily, in addition to his own duties, as Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Legislative Department during Mr. Reily's absence on leave.

WE are requested to announce that the Annual Meeting of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, will be held at the Association Rooms on *Thursday*, the *30th Inst.*, at 5-30 P.M. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, President, will preside on the occasion.

YIELDING to pressure the Lieutenant Governor has appointed a Committee formed under the presidency of Sir Henry Harrison to enquire into the following matters :—

(1) The extent and nature of the poverty and destitution which prevail in the town of Calcutta among Europeans and Eurasians; (2) the various charitable institutions and the funds at their disposal for the relief of such destitution; (3) the best methods of relieving present destitution; (4) any means which may be devised for preventing its growth and increase in future.

The Lieutenant-Governor is not free from apprehension that the institution by Government of an enquiry of this character may raise hopes which it will be impossible to satisfy, so that he deems it right to place it on record that in yielding to the aplications for its appointment he neither commits the Government to accept any new financial responsibilities, nor proposes that it should attempt to occupy the field of the operations of private charity. He believes that private charity in Calcutta is amply sufficient to deal with local destitution, and may require organisation and direction; he agrees that the enquiry will be facilitated by the fact of its investigation having been authorised by Government; and he regards it a matter of importance to the administration that the condition of this portion of the community should be thoroughly and accurately examined.

THERSITES (IN BENGAL) :—

Hector. What art thou, Greek, art thou for Hector's match?
Art thou of blood, and honor?

Thersites. No, no; I am a rascal; a scurvy railing knave; a very filthy rogue.

Hector. I do believe thee;—live.

[*Exit.*

GENERAL H. Brackenbury, who has succeeded General Sir George Chesney as Military Member of Council, arrived at Simla on Saturday, on which day General Chesney sailed for Europe.

THE Dufferin Fund is steadily looking up in Bengal. Raja Rameshwara Sing Bahadur, of Durbhunga desires to found a female dispensary, with a lady doctor and accommodation for about half a dozen beds. There will also be an Assistant Surgeon, and the Raja is willing to pay annually six thousand rupees for maintenance of the institution, besides which he will give fifteen thousand towards the cost of the buildings. The hospital is to be located at Rajnagar.

MR. ABDUR RAHMAN has been appointed to officiate as Reporter for the Indian Law Reports in the High Court, Calcutta, in the place of Mr. Panioty, who has been granted leave for three months. We congratulate Mr. Rahman on his appointment.

THERE were two shocking murders the week before last which kept the Police fully occupied. In the first the victim was the wife a Madrasi servant of Sir Charles Elliott whose mad jealousy made him shoot the unfortunate woman in the Belvedere, after which he shot himsef and put an end to his existence. In the second a young bravado in the midst of a thoughtless and sudden street brawl in Machuabazar stabbed two up-countrymen with a penknife with the result that one of them died on the spot, while the other is in a precarious condition. The murderer who is said to be respectably connected made good his escape and is still abroad.

SIR HENRY HARRISON assured the Corporation that by acquiring more land than was necessary the Central Road would almost cost nothing. Some figures are being circulated which would tend to the same conclusions and they are as follows :—

The Corporation has already received an offer of Rs. 10,000 per cottah for a strip measuring one beegah and one cottah lying between Clive Street and the Strand, *i. e.* Rs. 2,10,000 for the plot. The offer has, however, been declined, as the ground in the locality is valued at a very much enhanced rate. In regard to other spare lands along the road offers have been made as follows: for nine beegahs and five cottahs between Circular Road and Amherst Street Rs. 3,50,000, at the rate of Rs. 2,000 per cottah; for seven beegahs and 15 cottahs between Amherst and College Streets Rs. 2,56,000, and for seven beegahs and 10 cottahs between College and Halliday Streets Rs. 2,70,000.

This is hopeful no doubt, and Sir Henry may not prove a bad prophet. But a careful and painstaking business man assures us that that is not so. A good thirty lacs is expected to be the Central Road Bill when it comes to be settled.

THE *Englishman* remarks :—

From the completed returns for the past financial year, it appears that the consumption is larger than at any time since the duty was raised, and that the revenue tops the record. Omitting thousands, the figures are 33,320 maunds and 7,99,05 rupees. The revenue exceeds that of 1889-90 by upwards of six lakhs, while it is 155 lakhs better than that of 1887-88. After the returns for 1890-91 it cannot be pretended that the raising of the duty has had the effect of checking consumption.

We fancy the figures apply to consumption of salt though the paragraph by some typographical error is silent on the subject. Those who opposed and ridiculed the salt amendment of the last Congress should carefully study these figures.

THE City Fathers have had their rations rudely stopped, which they take as a great hardship in this grilling season. Baraf *pani*, Soda *pani*, *cheeruts* and *chillums* are no longer provided at the expense of the Chairman, whom they have treated shabbily, and they have had to raise subscriptions to provide for their own comforts at the Municipal Office and the Town Hall on Meeting and Committee days. Mr. Turnbull's gratis *amburis* and *Tubki khilis* had spoiled their taste, but they had a tolerable time of it during the years following his retirement on full pension when Sir Henry Harrison and Mr. Lee provided for their comforts at, of course, their private expense. Latterly there has again been an offer, they say, of the old system being resorted to, which has been thankfully declined and the Subscription system is to prevail.

THE Complaints Committee of the Corporation have had their serene temper ruffled by their Health Officer, and they passed a vote of censure disapproving of his refusal to send over certain books repeatedly required by the Committee. With remarkable *nonchalance* did Dr. Simpson "warn" the Committee of certain matters, and said that the Committee could come over to his office and inspect his books if they wished, as he was not going to send them over. The resolution came up for confirmation on Thursday last, when many speakers spoke disparagingly of the Health Officer's tone and attitude which had often been "deprecated" before. Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee, whose is the only speech even partially reported by the morning papers, said :—

Babu Surendra Nath Bannerjee first took exception to the reply received by the Complaints Committee from the Health Officer in response to a demand to send over certain registers. The Health Officer said his office could not spare the records, but the Complaints Committee could "come over to his office and look at the books." The speaker thought that this sort of language from the Health Officer ought to cease, specially having regard to a previous vote, referring to a similar impertinence, passed by the Commissioners. He did hope that the Chairman would use his personal influence to bring about a better understanding between the Health Officer and the Complaints Committee. There seems to be a feeling, whether right or wrong he was not able to say, that the Complaints Committee have not the sympathy of the Executive. If this feeling was removed, the Health Officer would not dare to run counter to the orders of the Committee. The Complaints Committee have a right to insist upon a compliance with their orders by servants of the Corporation. It seems extraordinary that while every other department cordially helped the committee, the Health Department was the only one with which there is, invariably, considerable friction. Dr. Simpson's remarks, if they meant anything, meant a defiance of the Complaints Committee, and not only a defiance of the Complaints Committee, but a defiance of the whole body of Commissioners.

We entirely agree with Babu Surendranath that the Chairman may do much to avoid these frictions. These objectionable notes are chiefly addressed to him and he, instead of dealing with them, orders them to be "put up before the Committee *in original*." There is no necessity for this whatever, and a little tact may bring the Health Officer to see that he is wrong in pitting himself against the Commissioners on all possible occasions.

THE Calcutta Corporation is going to raise a further loan of 40 lacs of rupees, chiefly for the purposes, we suppose, of the Central Road. Two lacs out of this will be advanced by the Port Commissioners without interest and 20 lacs wil be raised in open market, during the next six months, the remaining 18 lacs being spread over a subsequent period. The interest agreed upon by the Loans Committee is five per cent or the maximum allowed by the law. Exception was taken to this, as the Commissioners in meeting assembled and not any particular Committee can under the law fix the rate of interest. The matter has been sent back to the Loans Committee for reconsideration and the consensus of opinion is that in the present state of the money market the rate ought not to be the maximum, as 4½ per cent will be quite enough for the purpose. Babu Nalin Behary Sircar, who has been recently added to the Loans Committee, has written an

able note from which we make the following extract :—

The general tendency with regard to all Public Funds, at present, is to reduce the interest charge asmuch as possible; in dealing, therefore, with Municipal Loans it is certainly the duty of the Commissioners to see if they cannot make a move in the direction indicated with advantage to the Corporation. The credit of the Corporation is very good; money is cheap, accommodation being easily obtainable at or under 4 per cent; further, there will be no Government Loan this year, no intention to that effect having so far been expressed;—these facts clearly indicate that this is preeminently the most favorable opportunity for the Commissioners to endeavour to reduce the rate of interest.

Looking to the current market values of 4½ per cent. Municipal and 4½ per cent. Port Trust Debentures (which are Rs. 103 and Rs. 104¼ respectively) there is every reason to believe that the Commissioners will be able now to successfully float the proposed Loan at 4½ instead of 5 per cent interest.

The financial result of the proposal now made, I need hardly point out, will be a permanent gain to the Revenue Funds of the Corporation to the extent of Rs. 19,000 per year amounting altogether, during the currency of the loan, to Rs. 5,70,600. Allowing, however, for the additional premium obtainable on a 5 per. cent loan and the interest thereon the net gain to the Corporation will be about 2 lacs as the following calculation will shew :—

Gain for ½ per cent. interest on Rs. 38,00,000 during 30 years. ...		5,70,000
Less additional premium on five per cent Rs. 38,00,000 4 per cent. ...	1,52,000	
Also 5 per. cent. interest on the additional premium during 30 years. ...	2,28,000	3,80,000
Rs.		1,90,000

Most of Babu Nalin Behari's colleagues agree with him and the interest is likely to be reduced. But whatever may be done should be done soon, for no long time should be allowed for bulls and bears to affect the market.

WE are glad to hear that Babu Probodh Chandra Chatterji has subscribed Rupees five hundred in aid of the Funds of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

THOUGH *Suttee* has been put down by law self-immolation by sorrowing widows immediately after their husband's death, seem to be still common enough in the country. The disconsolate mourners take none into their confidence, have no "accomplices" or "abettors" for the law to touch, and carry out their fatal intentions with a determination and tenacity of purpose that is inconceivable to foreigners. In many instances these self-destructions are actually in anticipation of the husband's death, as even momentary widowhood is considered insufferable. Not long ago a remarkable case of this latter description took place at Rishra, near Konnagar. Babu Beharilal Mukerjee, a respectable Bramhin inhabitant of the place who was in the employ of our well-known townsman, Babu Gonesh Chunder Chunder, was pronounced dying. His poor wife anticipated the sad event and committed suicide in a cool and deliberate manner. Another case is just reported from Boinchie, in which a young widow within a week of her husband's death put an end to her existence. A correspondent thus describes the event :—

A week ago her husband died. She took to heart the loss of her husband. On the 10th instant she put on her body her late husband's shirt and set fire to it and lay down where her husband used to sleep. After the lapse of a few minutes, she commenced crying "Haribole," which attracted the attention of other inmates of the house, when they saw her folding her hands towards heaven and pronouncing the name of *Hari*. When asked by them: "Don't you feel pain by burning yourself in the flames?" she boldly declared that she felt peace in her mind and saw her deceased lord. Thus she succumbed within half an hour.

BABU AVATAR CHUNDER GANGULY of the Sheriff's Office died with painful suddenness on Monday last. He was the head of the well-known Ganguly family of Burabazar and was a gentleman of amiable manners and charitable disposition. Although nearly seventy years of age he was seemingly in good health and was regularly attending to business within literally a few hours of his death. The melancholy event is attributed to heat appoplexy.

THE second annual report of the Suvarnanic Charitable Association shows an increase of members from 138 to 150. During the year 3 men, 41 widows, 17 boys, and 7 girls have been helped by the funds. Grants are made of allowances monthly from Rs. 11 to Rs. 18. The amount collected during the year was Rs. 2,775, about one half of which only has been expended. At the annual meeting held on March 5th, the officers for the ensuing year were elected. Raja Durga Churn Law, was elected President, Babu Jadu Lal Mullick and Kumar Radha Prasad Roy, Vice-Presidents, and Babus Bolye Chand Dutta and Rajendra Nath Mullick, Secretaries. A resolution was recorded expressing regret at the sad loss sustained by the death of Babu Sham Churn Law, who was an active and zealous member of the Association.

THE Pioneer Company of the Calcutta Volunteers who were supposed to be the pick of the Corps so far as power of endurance and active duty was concerned have been disabled by the long march to Shillong. Most of the privates got foot-sore and were sick and many have had to take to bed. They could not, therefore, be of much use to the regulars either in the work of road-making or otherwise. We are sorry for the gallant band who hoped to have their share in the little campaign, but have been disappointed.

THE Bramho murder case has been committed to the Sessions. Ambica Churn Bose withdrew his confession before the Coroner and said in the Police Court that he did not know anything about the murder. He reserved his defence for the Sessions. The second charge against him is attempt to murder Mahesh Chandra Aturti, who went to his victim's rescue. The Coroner being a magistrate also, the confession seems to have been in order, though perhaps not taken down in due form. It is difficult to see how far its withdrawal at this stage will avail the accused.

REGARDING the O'Hara case Mr. Caine wrote to the *Times* as follows in a letter, which was not published by that journal :—"There can be no doubt whatever (would to God there could be) on the part of anyone who knows as much of Native opinion as I do that the impression is well-nigh universal that this miscarriage of justice was in some way or other procured by Government." Upon this the *Englishman*, to whom a copy of the letter has been sent by Mr. Caine, challenges him to mention a single one of the Congress leaders who upholds this statement. We are afraid our contemporary's challenge cannot be accepted, for the simple reason that no Congress-leader entertains any such view or opinion, however much all may regret the lamentable miscarriage of justice.

MR. W. H. SMITH, in reply to a question, said that there was no prospect of finding time for a further discussion of the Opium question. It was, he said, improper to suggest that the Government of India did not consider what passed in the House of Commons, but the full responsibility of governing India rests with it. Sir Joseph Pease then announced that he would drop his motion. Mr. Smith said that it was not intended to further appoint a Select Committee to examine into the effects produced by opium on the health of those who consume it. It would certainly be wise of Sir Joseph to adopt the course he has announced. He has no idea perhaps, or does not care to realize the amount of strain that will be put on the Indian treasury if his motion be given effect to. This will necessarily recoil on the tax-payer, whose burden is anything but light.

SAYS the *Indian Daily News* :—"A rumour which has been current that the Government of of India intended at an early date to materially increase the Income-tax to the extent of doubling it, is declared on excellent authority to be without foundation. The rumour has probably arisen from some conjecture that the frontier expeditions will be little copies of the foolish Afghan war." The frontier expedition will no doubt augment the regular military charges this year, considerably, which is however not all the evil to be apprehended. The Pease motion is finding strong support with those in India and England who are generally fond of sentimental legislation, irrespective of consequences and may materially alter the financial policy of the Government of India. Trebling of the Income Tax may not then suffice and further additions to the burden will be unavoidable.

INCREASING heat has sent up the price of ice in Calcutta and the suburbs, which is causing great inconvenience. The manufacturers should consult public convenience as much as possible.

IT is expected that Mr. Justice Muthuswamy Iyer will act as Chief Justice of the Madras High Court during a month's absence of Sir Arthur Collins after the vacation. This will be a matter of sincere rejoicing all over the country, as Mr. Iyer's ability and worthiness fully entitles him to such a distinguished honor. Sir (then Babu) Romesh Chunder Mitter officiated as Chief Justice of Bengal with credit to himself and advantage to the Bench in general and to the suitors. So Mr. Justice Iyer's elevation will not be without precedent. It is a gain to have native judges given ample opportunity to show that they are capable of satisfactorily discharging higher duties.

THE Committee appointed to consider Mr. Baldwin Latham's scheme of improving the drainage of Bombay, has drawn up a report traversing his principal recommendation that the sewage outfall should be removed from one end of the island to the other. The Committee is said to have been influenced by the consideration that the cost of doing this would be excessive, from fifty-four to one hundred and fifty lakhs of rupees, and that the military authorities would never consent to the removal of the outfall to Colaba, the military quarter. The Committee therefore advises the Corporation to fall back on the alternative recommended by Mr. Latham, that is, to make the best of the present outfall. Practically, the Corporation has thrown away thirty thousand rupees in fees to Mr. Latham, for there is no money to carry out his recommendations. We are afraid the Calcutta report will not be attended with better practical results. Almost every Commissioner of the Calcutta Corporation knew and know that the existing system of underground drainage is faulty and its introduction in the Suburbs was opposed. Mr. Latham's confirmation of the misgiving of the Commissioners will, therefore, have one important result, namely, that of a costly mistake being repeated.

THE *Statesman* supported us cordially in our condemnation of Mr. Wheeler's History of India as an alternative text book of the Entrance Examination and we notice that our protest has not been in vain. The *Statesman* hears that the Senate has consented to retain the book on the Text Book list, if the portions objectionable to Hindu feelings will be at once expunged. That is a concession no doubt but why should patronage *have* to be extended if it is not deserved? We have an excellent text book in Sir William Hunter's History and an alterative is not at all necessary, unless it be to propitiate Messrs. Macmillan & Co., who hold the copy right of Mr. Wheeler's book. In this connection we are glad to learn that Sir William has brought out a handy School History of Bengal which is a companion to his similar work on India and will be very acceptable to the school-going and general public.

THE news of the assassination of General Azimuddin Khan Bahadur, Foreign Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Rampur, has been officially confirmed. He with two other members of the Rampur Council of Regency dined with a Tahsildar of the Cawnpur district on the 13th instant, and as he was driving home

in a dog-cart about eleven o'clock, he was fired upon by a body of men from a lane near the Chowk. He was covered with five bullet wounds, and died within an hour. A clue to the crime is said to have been obtained, and it is being actively investigated, though no arrest has yet been made. The Maharaja has offered a reward of Rs. 5,000 for the capture of the murderers, and this sum has been doubled by the N. W. P. Government. The General was unpopular with a strong party in the State.

IT is reported that there are still sixty-two prisoners in Manipur. They consist of clerks, servants, and other followers. The Kohima column had advanced 12 miles into Manipur territory on the 22nd instant and so far had met with no resistance. The telegraph wire was cut in several places, but owing to the energy of Mr. Pinhey, it had been repaired. General Graham and staff had arrived at Tammu on April 20th, after a very stiff march across the hills from Kendat, in which one man died of heat appoplexy. ThejManipur-Cachar column occupied a position two-and-a-half miles east of the Kaopan Valley on the 22nd instant. This force expected to capture Bishenpur. The Manipuris after making a show of defence, abandoned Kala Naga, Kaopan, Loangla, but it is believed that they mean to defend Bishenpur. When all the three columns join hands at Manipur, on the 27th instant, there will be altogether close upon 5000 rifles and 12 guns, and nearly 100 Mounted Infantry. The Trung bridge is now in order, and is held by hundred of the 18th and a similar number of the 44th Gurkhas. Great praise is being bestowed on the Surma Valley Light Horse, who are rendering excellent service in carrying despatches and thus facilitating the forward movements of the troops. The Manipuris abandoned the Maitapham Thana, before the arrival of the British force, and no defences are found. The fourth brother of the Maharaja is reported as holding the position at Aloung-doung, lately so brilliantly held against overwhelming odds by Lieutenant Grant. The Manipuris also intend to offer a firm resistance at Kaitimabi, which is known to be defended with guns. They are also supposed to hold one or two positions near the Capital. Captain Presgrave and Lieutenant Grant have retired towards Tammu and have been stopped 25 miles from Tammu. Major Leslie left Kalewa on the 15th with 200 Gurkhas and 2 guns to occupy Palel. Proclamation has been issued by General Callet and General Graham to the effect that in consequence of recent acts in Manipur, the Regent is declared deposed, his acts amounting to rebellion against the Queen Empress. The Regent is reported to be in great fear of English troops. In answer to the letter announcing that troops were being sent to restore order, he replied; "Order has been restored. Please stop the troops." Cholera has broken out all along the line from Luruk to Fenchugunj, among the troops and the followers, but not of a severe type. The recent heavy storms and rain may do some good, but the heat is said to be excessive.

TAKING advantage of the prevailing disorders of the times the Bhutias on the borders of the Kamrup district, in the province of Assam, made a raid a few days ago on some tea villages in the plains. The thanas on the frontier had lately been considerably under-manned, constables having been taken away for the work of impressing coolies for the Manipur expedition. This encouraged the hill-men to come down and plunder the villages though happily no lives were lost. The Aka disturbance has been luckily averted and the Nagas still continue friendly. In fact the latter have largely aided in the organisation of the extensive cooly transports of the expedition and 1700 men have been impressed into service through the exertions of the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Davies.

NECESSARILY very incomplete reports had reached England about the Manipur affair when the last mail left on the 31st March. Although the full extent of the catastrophe had not been known the cry for retribution was loud and the excitement great. It was not yet known of course that the British troops were the first to open hostilities in pursuance of the pre-arranged plan for capture of the Senapati in open durbar, or that the Manipuris had been goaded into desperation by the inadvertent massacre of their wives and children. When full facts are made public the cry will naturally be different and the demand for punishment will affect only the actual offenders.

ACCORDING to news brought out by the last mail the Manipur disaster had created an immense sensation in England, and the opinion in well-informed circles was that Mr. Quinton and Mr. Grimwood had committed an indiscretion. Instead of treating with the Manipuris, Mr. Quinton should have endeavoured, it is felt, to secure an orderly retreat of the whole party. Mr. Lewis writes to the *Times* suggesting that it is a mistake not to employ military officers at frontier outposts.

COLONEL NOLAN, in the House of Commons asked the Under-Secretary of State for India, whether he would order the Commanders of the military columns now operating in Manipur to abstain from burning the villages of the Natives, when the latter were merely resisting the attacks of British troops. Sir John Grost, in reply, said that he declined to assume that the British Commanders in Manipur would act improperly. Sir John was right for retribution and punishment of offenders in the mission of the expedition and not indiscriminate vengeance.

THE following descriptions are attached to the Proclamation offering reward for the capture of various Manipuri Chiefs :—

I. The Manipur Regent.—Reward Rs. 5,000. *Description.*—Age 35 years; very stout; dropsical; height about 5 feet 8 inches; complexion darkish; small moustache.

II. The Senapati.—Reward Rs.5,000. *Description.*—Age about 32; taller than Regent; stoutish; very strongly built; small moustache and whiskers; one of his front teeth slightly broken.

III. Doloroi Henjuda.—Reward Rs. 2,000. *Description.*—Age about 28; stoutish; tall; darkish complexion; very small moustache.

IV. Zilla Singh.—Reward Rs. 2,000. *Description.*—Age about 22; short and slight; fair complexion; no moustache.

V. Tangal General.—Reward Rs. 2,000. *Description.*—Age about 80; fair complexion; short and stoutish, hair quite white; very much bent.

VI. Niranjan Subadar.—Reward Rs. 1,000. *Description.*—Hindustani; age about 35.

THE *Times* publishes a letter from Sir Lepel Griffin in which he denounces the action of Sir Joseph Pease in endeavouring to secure the abolition of the opium trade of India. Sir Lepel dwells upon the fiscal advantages of the opium tax, and says that the loss of revenue from this source would either fatally compromise the Indian Government, or saddle the British tax-payer with an unbearable burden.

THE Coimbatore Brahmin convert case has been heard by the District Munsiff at Coimbatore. The District Surgeon's opinion was that the boy was between 16 and 17 years of age. The evidence of four Doctors taken on commission was put in; three were of opinion that the boy was over 18, and the fourth that he was nearer 18 than 17. The boy's father said that the boy was between eight and ten years. The District Munsiff is of opinion that the boy is not of age, and that the missionary must hand him over to his guardians and pay the costs; an appeal will be made. Regarding the value of medical opinion on questions of age, *Hope* very pertinently observes:—"In connection with the case of the murder of Girija Sundari, the Police Surgeon, Dr. Cobb, is reported to have deposed as the result of his medical examination that the age of the deceased was about twenty only. All those, however, who knew her intimately, have testified that Girija Sundari was about thirty years old, little this way or the other. If mistake of ten round years can be made in respect of the age of a fully developed woman by an experienced Surgeon, one may well imagine the chances of public safety under the operation of the Age of Consent Act, in which so much will depend upon the evidence as to the exact age of a girl on the debatable borderground between eleven and twelve."

GREAT scarcity is being felt in Madras and unless speedy relief be obtainable it will soon thicken into downright famine. A contemporary thus describes the situation :—

In one district, it is said, the people are beating out and using for food the seeds of grasses that are never used in ordinary times, and ant-hills are being dug up for sake of the little store of grain accumulated by the tiny workers. The labourers are, moreover, wandering in large numbers from place to place in the hope that the condition of neighbouring districts may be better than that of their own; and this migration necessarily tends in most cases to increase rather than diminish the evil. In many districts drunkenness is alarmingly on the increase, and one observer remarks that the distressed people not only spend in toddy for themselves the pice that should be carefully spent in nourishment, but that the stimulant is also given largely to children, upon whom it exercises for the time a soothing and satisfying influence. Pitiful stories of want are reported from districts within a few miles of Madras City; and although the situation has not yet approached in general that of absolute famine the instances of individual suffering are sadly numerous.

It was long expected that the impending calamity would be averted, but there seems to be little chance of the expectation being realized. Lord Wenlock's Government has an arduous task before it. Its energies and resources should be promptly applied towards relief measures which may still improve the situation.

REASSURING news comes from Benares. A conference was held at the Commissioner's house, at which the Hon. J. J. F. Lumsden, senior member of the Board of Revenue, specially deputed to advise on the situation, was present. The present Commissioner, Mr. Wright, is a new man, having relieved Mr. Adams, on leave, only on the 3rd of April, while Mr. Lumsden was for many years Commissioner of Benares, and possesses an intimate knowledge and the confidence of the people. The original intention was that at a special Municipal Meeting the leading Pandits of Benares were to be summoned to declare on oath whether any religious objection existed to the removal of the idol, when the Municipality would have acted on the Pandit's decision. But at the conference it was settled that the temple was not to be removed. At a special meeting of the Municipal Commissioners the Hon. Babu Bireshwar Mitra, seconded by Babu Ramkali Choudhuri, moved, in view of the recent disturbances, and as it was not absolutely necesssary for the water works that the whole of the temple of Ramchandra should be destroyed, that the idol be allowed to remain undisturbed, the Municipality first building a small shrine over it, and allowing free access to the worshippers; and then that the outer portions of the temple which stand in the way of the works be removed. An amendment to this was proposed by Munshi Raghunandan Prasad, Munshi Hanuman Prasad seconding, that before any action was taken the recorded opinions of His Highness the Maharaja of Benares and the leading Pandits of Benares be obtained. On being put to the vote only eight members were in favour of the amendment, and the original resolution was carried by a majority of fourteen to eight. This decision somewhat allayed popular feeling, though great discontent still prevails, at the police making indiscriminate arrests. A little tact and forethought would have avoided the whole disturbance and their want is very much to be deplored. Let the offenders be punished by all means whose guilt is established in Court; but there ought to be a thorough and sifting enquiry into the whole circumstances which led to this unfortunate popular excitement.

THE first engagement of the Miranzai field force took place on Friday before last morning. Number 1 Column reached Lucka at 8-30 without opposition, and then advanced to Shalta. No. 3 Mountain Battery shelling the heights. No. 2 Column advanced, from Durband, met No. 1 Column at Durband Kotal, and arrived at Gwada, where the two columns bivouaced. No. 3 Column advanced by the Pat Durband road, and reached Sangar at 2 o'clock

in the afternoon. It was opposed during ascent. On Saturday, (18 April) General Lockhart with Columns Nos. 1 and 3 advanced at seven in the morning along the crest and carried Surtope at eight. This village was cleared of the enemy by the 1st and 6th Punjab Infantry under cover of guns posted on hill tracts to the west of Sungar. At eleven the next morning the advance along the crest was continued, and the villages of Mastaon and Savagatti were occupied, the third column being left there, the first returning to Sungar. A halt was made on Sunday. The Cavalry advanced towards Khanki as far as Gwada, and were fired upon. Attacks and reprisals are still going on but without any definitive action. The enemy is expected to give trouble long.

Correspondence

[FROM OUR OWN CORRSSPONDENCE.]

London April 3, 1891.

THE DISASTER IN MANIPUR.

THIS is the heading which has been most prominent in all English newspapers during the week. At first the news sent a thrill through the country and we believed that a desaster had occurred of a much more serious kind than we now understand it to be from the further telegrams. The opinion seems to be that some one has blundered and we ask what was a punitive expedition despatched for if sufficient forces were not available to carry out its objects. But as yet we are really not in a position to form any judgment on the matter and the newspapers have abstained from doing more than give the events so far as they are known.

Our friends the French venture upon a little criticism of their own which is distinguished by their usual amiability, and I think you will agree that it is as absurd, in this particular instance, as their criticism upon us generally appears, at least to ourselves.

It is taken from a Paris paper and it is as follows: "We regard this catastrophe as indicating the spread of ideas of political emancipation in India. The day is perhaps not far off when a well organized party will spring up claiming India for the Indians, in which event England's dominion in India will be seriously threatened."

This appears to be either pure ignorance or malice. There may be English enemies of the political movement, in England or elsewhere, sufficiently malicious to concoct such a theory, but they would not be ignorant enough to attempt to foist it upon us as English opinion: for both they and it would be treated with contempt. Whether the French paper has been treated to this version of the affair from other than French sources and has accepted it as English opinion is a question which may be asked even if one cannot answer it.

As a political matter there seems no disposition to attach a very great importance to the Manipur disaster though we deplore greatly each accounts as are now coming in as to the number of brave and faithful soldiers who have lost their lives; but even as to this an uncertainty is felt regarding the real state of the facts; and we can only hope that when the truth is known it may be less serious than anything we have yet heard.

MR. CAINE AND THE O'HARA CASE.

You are no doubt familiar with the nature of the charges which Mr. Caine brought some time ago against the administration of justice in India, founded upon his views of the above case. I dare say you are also quite as well aware of the angry protests to which Mr. Caine's opinions and charges have given rise. The "*Times*" has this week two long letters from an Anglo-Indian in India upon the matter, discussing it from that point of view, and charging Mr. Caine with perversion of the facts and recklessness which will have the ill effects of stirring up racial hatred. Mr. Caine's letters originally appeared in the *Pall Mall Gazette* and they are about to be republished. It appears from a letter of Mr. Caine to the "*Pall Mall Gazette*" which was sent two days before the letters in "the *Times*," that his attention had been directed by friends to several expressions which they thought might be misunderstood and he agreeing to some extent with that view, has requested certain alterations to be made when his letters shall be re-published. The sentence objected to is "every Indian in Calcutta, high and low is convinced with some reason, that the Government have yielded to fears and threats, and lent themselves, and their Judges, to the encouragement of a race hatred that they ought above all others to be the first to stamp out." Mr. Caine's friends thought the words "and with some reason" expressed a coincidence of opinion with that of the general public as to the honesty of the judges. He says "what I intended to convey and what I think the words do convey, is that the facts of the O'Hara case, the accuracy of which my friends do not question, justified this feeling on the part of Indians—a feeling which undoubtedly exists and is practically universal." However, he proceeds "I—ought to have remembered that Judges are often placed in a very difficult position by Government action, and are unable to enter into any public controversy with regard to their action. I certainly did not intend to reflect discredit on the High Court Bench which tried the case, nor do I think the sentence complained of does so. The technical flaw in the prosecution under which Justice Norris and his jury so righteously convicted O'Hara was of course not set up by the Judges but by the legal adviser of the Government of India; and I suppose the Judges had no other course open to them but to quash the sentence on this ridiculous technicality."

Mr. Caine concludes by saying he is sorry if the words are capable of being interpreted into a doubt as to the *bona fides* of the Judges but that he cannot withdraw a single word he has written "on this disgraceful miscarriage of justice" so far as the action of the Government is concerned.

THE PARLIAMENTARY RECESS

At the time of writing last week I mentioned that Parliament was just using for the Easter holidays and that we should be, at least so far as that great public institution and its attendant satellites was concerned, for some time in a dull season. Whatever its demerits may be it is at all events a great news manufactory, and, as such, must have the good word of those whose duty it is to keep the columns of newspapers well filled whether in India or England. The complaint is often enough made that Parliamentary news is on the whole of a dull kind; and there are people who consider themselves of a somewhat higher intellectual endowment than the ordinary, who affect to look upon it with some disdain. But the British citizen as a rule loves his Parliament, and would feel a great sense of vacancy if he could not turn to the daily supply of information of its doings. He feels after all that though politics are often very arid and sterile in some aspects, there is a good deal of sterling human interest in them which he cannot afford to be indifferent to: and he agrees with his countryman who said that the man who preferred a poem to the poor-law was only a senseless kind of creature.

At present however, it must be confessed that Parliament is in a languishing condition. We are in fact thinking much more of its successor than of the one which after a five years' course is now thought to be nearing its end. People are speculating as to whether or not there will be a speedy dissolution; and it is thought probable that the result of the Aston election, about which I spoke in my last letter will have the effect of hastening it. This and the shock which it cannot be denied has been given to the Home Rule party by the Parnell affair, has afforded great encouragement to the Conservatives; and they may very well suppose that no time could be better than the present for again taking the opinion of the electors and obtaining a new lease of power. There seems good reason to believe that Mr. Parnell will be defeated in the fight he is waging against the majority of what has once his party. In Ireland all the Information we have here seems to point to this; and in England where there are many constituencies in which the Irish electors are numerous, the branch organizations of the National League have declared themselves against him. All this seems at first sight in favour of the re-union of the Irish party with the Liberals and the resumption of the position in which they stood before the disruption where the chance of Home Rule becoming more and more hopeful. But there is another side to the question. If Mr. Parnell is beaten it will be owing to the efforts made by the Roman Catholic Priesthood against him. They have manifesfed a tremendous strength in this contest and of that must be remembered strength it that the English people are always more or less jealous. One of the chief causes operating against the success of Home Rule movement has been the belief that, in popular phraseology, Home Rule meant Rome Rule; and at no time was the Home Rule idea more likely of acceptance than when the Irish party opposed itself to the Papal interference with certain of its movements. To the arguments that Home Rule meant an increase of the power of the priest-hood that opposition seemed a good reply; but Rome steps back only that she may leap the further and whether rightly or wrongly there are great numbers of liberals amongst the nonconformist protestants, the chief supporter s of the liberal party, but also the most ardent inheritors of the anti-Roman Catholic tradition, who will be disturbed at the triumph which the clergy of that Church have gained over the supporters of Mr. Parnell and the increased influence which such a victory will naturally give them with the party whom they have supported. The more the clergy take to themselves the credit of this the more likely are they to alarm people here. That they are not inclined to minimzie the part they have played, that in fact they are desirous of calling attention to the successful vindication of their claims as the leader of the just nation, which had been somewhat passed over at the time of the Papal manifestoes appears from the language of Archbishop Walsh. In a conversation which he had witht he representative of a newspaper he is reported to have said "There no conflict between the bishops the priest and thespeople. Mr. Parnell no longer represents the national force he has followers here and there no doubt, a few almost everywhere; but this only shows that he still retains some amount of power to weaken the national ranks. But the country is against him. We bishops have simply given xpression to the sentiments of Catholic Ireland. We had the courage to speak out when the courage was needed were Parnell seemed just on the point of carrying eveything before him by storm and violence. The country was then over-awed by Mr, Parnell but emboldened by the strong moral support of the bishops and clerk took courage and spoke for itself, and the imposture which was so nearly forcing itself upon Ireland rapidly melts away some few unskilful politicians raised a cry of dictation against the bishops and priests. The bishops have not dictated: they have only given courage to the country to free itself from the intolerable dictatorship of Mr. Parnell.

Now this language is very natural in the mouth of a Roman Catholic Priest very likely it is quite true; and more than that it may be granted to be patrotic and describe a condition of things which is for the good of Ireland, but it cannot be called good electioneering. It describes the priesthood as the arbitors of Ireland is destinies, and as wielding an influence which will alarm many in this country. I have quoted it solely because I think the chance of success of the Home Rule party at the next election, may be affected by this Roman Catholic influence being put strongly before the minds of the electors. How the matter will be put may be seen from the speech of Sir Henry James a leading Liberal Unionist who was Attorney-General in Government of Mr. Gladstone prior to 1886. He says "They stood face to face with the fact that the Roman Catholic Clergy had entered into that political contest not for the sake of morals nor for the sake of purity of conduct. They stood by too long and acted too late for them now to say that it was morality that prompted them. New power was asserting itself in a strangely important degree. Clerical canvassers were found going from house to house, every altar was being spoken from, and the following booths were also the scene of their operations. In England such conduct would not be tolerated, and at the risk of being considered narrow-minded and bigotted by those who entertained different religious views to his own, he now said that these new developments, this overwhelming power in relation to the minority of Protestants in this country (Ireland) demanded the consideration not of men who were narrow minded and bigotted but of those who were broadest and truest in their views and who desired to see freedom of political thought existing in their country. There is no doubt that this view will appeal very strongly to great numbers who distrust anything which enhances the power of the Roman Catholic Church. They will believe that there is in

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—PRE-EMINENTLY THE COD LIVER OIL FOR ULE IN INDIA, AND IN WARM CLIMATES.—Joseph J. Pope, Esq., late Staff-Surgeon, Army, Professor of Hygiene, Birkbeck Institution, London, writes:—"I found during my Indian experience that the worth and charater of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil remained unchanged by tropical heat or foreign climate, and it was, from its uniformity of character, particularly adapted for long-continued administration. Further, I have noticed the important fact, that Dr. de Johngh's Cod Liver Oil, besides containing all the active constituents of the remedy. is easily assimilated, with but the stomach derangement so frequently following the use of the ordinary Oils. The value of hydrocar-bons in all debilitated states of the system is now becoming throughly recognized; and it is, without doubt, from the animai oils and fats, rather than from their vegetable substitutes, that we may hope to derive the surest benefit. The Oil of Dr. de Jongh's places in every one's reach a reliable and valuable remedy, one, that cannot be too widely recognized." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in-capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule aud the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store keepers. Sole Consignees Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

the first place a danger to the liberties of Protestants in Ireland and in the next a blow aimed at protestantism at large. This is very likely a delusion but delusions are at least as powerful as realities in politics and they are often more easily turned to practical accounts; and without doubt if an election were held at the present moment the vein of "Roman Catholic ascendancy" would be worked with abundant zeal by the Unionists on the strength of what has appeared in Ireland during the Parnell struggle. We may hope without ultimate success; but at any rate not without some danger to the chances of Home Rule.

One can do no more than thus point out elements such as this in the forthcoming contest without venturing to say positively on which side the victory will be. Of course both parties boast of what they will do and neither of them will allow the other to outdo its professed confidence. The Gladstonians are expressing great contempt for their opponents in clinging to their offices and emoluments instead of boldly bringing matters to an issue. There is some truth in their charge that the present Parliament has become moribund and that its days of usefulness are past, but it is somewhat exaggerated and the conservatives would go to the polls with a very fair record of work. They are taunted indeed with usurping the functions of the Liberal, and doing liberal work, and certainly are of strong grounds upon which the conservatives may appealto the electors is in respect of this very fact many people are saying; after all there seems as good a chance of getting useful social measures, in which we are interested, from the Conservatives as the the and until the Irish question becomes clearer why should the Conservatives not go on as they are doing; why should a dissolution be forced, or if there should be a dissolution why should we be anxious to return a party pledged in the first place to bring forward Home Rule which would inevitably postpone that social legislation? And thus another point must be marked in favour of conservative chances and for their encouragement should an election take place at an early date.

Mr. Chamberlain in a speech made a day or two ago insisted that this subordinating of social and labour questions to Home Rule would result from elections favourable to Gladstonians. Home Rule has the dominant question at last election he said but that would not be the case at the next. His version of the bye-elections which have been claimed as victories for Home Rule is that they showed Home Rule to be disposed of for the present; and that Aston and Bassellan were won and Harllepool was lost on social and labour questions. In his opinion the Unionist party must see whether it is not possible to secure victory by a policy of constructive legislation, and he believed the trumph would go to the party which showed the greatest earnestness, readiness and capacity to deal with progressive reform and social legislation. Then he puts forward the view which I have mentioned as appealing to many electors viz that the predominance given by Gladstonians to Home Rule would hinder such legislation. He says: It is all very well for them to promise "one man one vote" local option (that is the power to the people of a neighbourhood to say whether public houses for the sale of alcoholic drinks shall exist or how many) the disestablishment of the churches in Wales and Scotland, the taxing of ground rents, the equalization of duties on the succession upon death to landed and other kinds of property. The reform of the land laws, and other such schemes; but if they were returned he contends that all these things would disappear and in their place there would be a bill to set up a rival Parliament in Dublin which would inevitably defer such legislation indefinitely. And then he points with great effect to specimens of what on these lines the conservative party has done of late.

Mr. Chamberlain, and the Unionists generally, are taking their cue from this disposition which is largely prevalent in the country and it is undoubtedly a very astute and a good fighting policy. Every day there are indications that those who are more interested in labour questions than in any other will use this dead lock owing to the Irish troubles to squeeze the parties in furtherance of their own plans. For example there will appear at the close of this week a new weekly paper to be called "The Trade Unonist" which is to record the progress of Trade unionism amongst workmen. In its prospectus after speaking of the Labour commission and admitting that good may result from the appointment of this body while at the same time it must not be allowed to interfere with the passing of working class measures on questions already ripe for settlement it says: 'As to the fact that a Conservative Government are appointing the commission this does not concern us in the least. According to our observation the persons who derive large incomes from labour, as shareholders in shipping, railway, mines and industries generally are to be found amongst Tories and Liberals alike, and we are a few days too old to think that life or death hangs upon either Liberalism or Torism; ours is Labourism, to which every "ism" is subservient and we care not a fig for the puny distinctions set up between Liberals and Tories.

So also Mr. Matthews the Home Secretary has been taking much the same line as Mr. Chamberlain placing labour question in the forefront of future Parliamentary action. What part the appointment of the labour commissisn has had in the electioneering projects of Unionists is seen by their constant references to it and Mr. Matthews put it forward as a preliminary enquiry necessary to be entered into in order that they may set about the solution of social questions with as much knowledge as they have zeal to forward the interests of the working classes. Only says Mr. Matthews: Let us have a few more victories like Aston and you will see how the Government will labour in the future as they have done in the past to promote the welfare of the toiling millions of the labouring classes and that prosperity of all in the dominions of the Queen.

Thus whatever else the Home Rule question may have done it has set the two parties upon a career of bidding for support by promises of reform in many directions and it has proved the most powerful revolutionary force that has been set in operation for many years. Since writing the above the result of the Sligo election has been declared and it seems that the Anti-Parnellite candidate has been returned by a majority of 780 votes. It is said that the Conservatives voted with the Parnelltites thus showing a bias which they have denied when charged with it as they were by Mr. Gladstone at Hastings. A lively correspondence took place between him and a member of Parliament, Sir Frederick Milner, in which the latter endeavoured to fix upon Mr. Gladstone a charge of unfairness or even of untruthfulness. Sir Frederick Milner would not accept the tone of the Umonist Press as proof of the assertion that the Conservative party was wishing success to Mr. Parnell. There was never any doubt about that. Now it would seem Sligo will have shown the party, as party, to have been acting with Mr. Parnell. Of course the sting of Mr. Gladstone's remark lay in the suggestion that that party was indifferent to moral considerations and would merely look at the advantages to be gained politically by Mr. Parnell's triumph, involving, as it would, the continued rupture of the Irish and the English Home Rule parties.

Death of Lord Granville.

During the recess death has removed a very prominent figure of highest politics in the person of Lord Granville. He was one of those statesmen whose influence is great amongst the puople not so much because they are on the popular side of politics as because they are on that side although they would more naturally, from their birth and social position, be expected to be in the party of the "classes"—to use Mr. Gladstone's famous description. Just as soldiers prefer to be led by officers who are their superiors in social rank so the people always seem to have as a special privilege the political leadership of a nobleman. There is an element of surprise in it which gives it a pugnancy to them apart from the solid advantage of their army made a friend of a natural enemy. Lord Hartington was a good example of how ingenuously the mass of the people will admire and over-rate the capacity of such a man; though it must be said to their credit that they will not follow him any longer than while he leads them where they wish to go; as Lord Hartington himself found when he left Mr. Gladstone on the Irish question. Lord Granville retained his popularity to the last because on this same question he went with the masses whose inclination to Home Rule has been largely due to their hostility to class ascendancy of which Ireland has always been a notable example. Since Lord Granville disappointed the Unionists by not deserting Mr. Gladstone as so many others of his rank did, he has been charged with an insincerity which was only excusable on account of the natural disinclination of a man of his years who had for so long been a faithful Lieutenant to Mr. Gladstone, to break away from his old ties. The same has been said of Lord Spencer, Lord Rosebery, and one or two others of the few highly placed persons who gave their support to the proposals of 1886. It is very likely that Unionists are honestly incapable of understanding that a clear and purely intellectual opinion in favour of Home Rule may be held even by individuals belonging to that class of whom the vast majority have deemed it the wildest and most dangerous of projects and who have prided themselves especially upon their integrity in throwing off Mr. Gladstone's leadership. There can be no doubt, however, that the faithfulness of the few like Lord Granville has been of the utmost service in the Home Rule contest. With all their ardour and earnestness of conviction the multitude likes to be able to say there is such and such a great name on our side; we are not the ignorant enthusiasts you would make us out to be; else would they be with us?" And Lord Granville was indeed a good fighter in the liberal ranks for many years; and until very recently he has led their small minority in the House of Lords with rare skill. He was exactly the man for that post. He was not an orator whose power could stir popular assemblies: it was of a different, and in some respect of a rarer and more subtle kind than Mr. Gladstone; and was on this account more appreciated in an aristocratic House than in meetings of ordinary citizens.

Lord Salisbury is of a much more similar type of mind but there is in his speeches a savagery of expression and bitterness which never appeared in Lord Granville's bland cases and polished public conversations—for his speeches were rather of that character than anything more formal. Probably Lord Rosebery approaches more nearly his particular style than any other man, but then Lord Rosebery has also much more of the instinct for democracy and he impressed popular audiences, in spite of a certain gaiety and humour, with his real earnestness. This Lord Granville was not successful in doing; and the serious, energetic, matter of fact people cannot sympathise with those who appear less in earnest than themselves. It is one source of Mr. Gladstone's influence that he leaves everybody else as far behind in enthusiasm, when he is once started, as in other qualities. But then Lord Granville belonged to an aristocratic set who encounter no difficulties in English public life and one would hardly expect them to be noticeable for middle class virtues. Honours came to him easily, and as a matter of course, and he has a tropical example of how delightful it is to be born an English lord who seems to exist less for the state than the State for him. It has been remarked that he is the last of an old race of Statesman who were born to a heritage of political distinction with emoluments. Well hardly the last but there is no doubt that honours in future will have to be more hardly born and very likely they will not be quite so lucrative.

ALL CLASSES PRAISE IT.

When all classes of a community unite in unqualifiedly and unstintedly praising anything, it may safely be taken for granted that the article, or whatever it may be, possesses merit to an unusual degree. Such praise is never bestowed lighty; it is earned before it is given.

Warner's "Safe" Cure for all diseases of the kidneys, liver, and General Debility, has earned aud received such praise as we speak of from Clergymen, Ministers, Doctors, Lawyears, Military and Naval men, and the public generally.

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"I have great pleasure in recommending your Warner's 'Safe' Cure. I have known several case which have benefited through your medicine.
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(Signed) "T. Herbert Smith, Curate."

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"I am just recovering from a very severe attack of kidney affection, for over a week passing blood with the water. I was advised by my chemist to take your remedy, Warner's 'Safe' Cure, because it had done more good to his customers affected with kidney and liver complaint than any other medicine. Acting on his advice I bought a bottle, and am already nearly cured.

(Signed) "W. M. Jones."

Warner's "Safe" Cure can be obtained at the Bazaars and of all Chemists and Menicine Vendors throughout the world, or of H. Ballantine and Sons, Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras.

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Cambridge University Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle) was (Jan. 1890) "much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to imemory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "I derived great bent from your lessons, though at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentations of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Physician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, etc., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal C. S. "Having seen the base attempt to rob you, I send, unsolicited, the statement that your system is of great advantage to strong memory incalculable aid to weak one."—Rev. Dr. J. M. Buckly. Excellent travelling companion.'—Capt. J. B. Haye R. N. Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Saderud-din Khan. "Invaluable."—J. J. Francis, Q. C. "Does not involve much labour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct. 1887. "Tremendously popular in Oxford.—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th February. 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupil. Rs. 76; Ten pupils, Rs. 19 each. Apply to F. Fisk-Williams, 71, Elliot Road Calcutta or to A. LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford Street, London, England.

Extract.

CURIOSITIES OF POISONS.

(Cassell's Saturday Journal.)

Medical science has of late years been turning attention of poisons, and many pronounced effects have been observed. "Experiments," says one authority, "have shown that certain poisons are so potent and subtle in their action as to almost equal the wonders in tales told of charms condensed into necromancers' phials. The animal body can be played upon as if it were a machine. The strokes of the central pump the heart, can be slowed or quickened; the vital hea lowered or increased; the pupil of the eye expanded or narrowed; the limbs paralysed or convulsed; the blood sent to the surface or withdrawn to the interior even the natural hue and colour of the body can be changed." One very interesting result of modern study of poisons is the discovery of some ground for believing that certain disease, both of body and mind may be attributable to poison in the system. Dr B. W. Richardson, for instance, says that somnambulism, he has not the slightest doubt, "is produced by the formation in the body of a peculiar substance which may be derived from the starchy parts of the body, and has the effect of the chemical substance known as amylene. I believe that," says Dr. Richardson, "because you produce artificial somnambulism by the use of that substance. Under its influence persons can be made to walk about unconsciously in the same way as the somnambulist does." The same respected authority affirms that there are substances known capable of producing extreme melancholy. "There is a peculiar offensive sulphur compound called mercaptan. A little of that administered to any one produces the intensest melancholy, tending almost to suicide. We can sometimes detect a similar offensive substance in the breath of patients who are suffering from melancholia." Similarly, there is a well-known poison which produced all the effects of scarlet fever. There is another, a large dose of which brings about all the symptoms of cholera; and there appear to be several poisons which produce idiocy or actual madness. The Hindus are said to know a drug which, as Mr. Wynter Blyth tells us, has, in Indian history, often played the part of a State agent, and has been used to produce imbecility in persons of high rank whose mental integrity was considered dangerous to the despot in power. This same writer gives a droll account of the effect produced by a certain root which, in an ancient cloister, the monks once ate by mistake. "In the night all were taken with hallucinations, so that the convent was like a madhouse. One monk sounded at midnight the matins; some who, thereupon, thinking, it was morn, came into chapel, opened their books, but could not read; others declaimed; sang drunken songs and the greatest disorder prevailed."

Among the most curious poisons of which there is any record in the past, or of which we have any knowledge at the present time, is that which Shakespeare makes Friar Laurence give to Juliet as a means of enabling her to escape the proposed marriage with Paris. It would, he assured her produce temporarily all the symptoms of death—

"Each part, deprived of supple government,
Shall, stiff and stark and cold, appear like death:
And in this borrowed likeness of shrunk death
Thou shalt continue two and forty hours.
And then awake as from a pleasant sleep."

Juliet takes the draught, and the effect is precisely as the Friar has predicted, and it might be supposed that so covenient a poison was purely the invention of a dramatist, and had no sort of equivalent in the drugs of the toxicologist. Modern science, however, has recognised in the contents of Juliet's phial a well-known medicine of ancient Greece *(atropu mandragora)* which really possesses the remarkable power attributed to it in Shakespeare's tragedy. Dr. Richardson tells us that it was actually used by Greek physicians very much as we use chloroform, and that under its influence operations were performed. It was known as "death wine," and was in common use till about the fifteenth century, but old medical works are still extant containing descriptions of it, and, a few years ago, this gentleman told us that a friend of his brought him some of the root from Greece, and, by the help of these old prescriptions, he was able to concoct some of this death wine, and to make such experiments with it as to entirely confirm Friar Laurence's account of its action. We are further told that, when the Jews were under the Romnns, and a good many of them were crucified, the Jewish women were in the habit of giving them this same mancragora in order to alleviate their sufferings, and it is suggested that, as some of the victims were known to have recovered from their apparent death, the practice of breaking the legs was adodted.

Government Notification

Calcutta Gazette.—*April* 22, 1891

GENERAL.—The following Special Deputy Collectors are appointed to act, until further orders, as Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors:—

Babu Sri Nath Chatterjee, Special Deputy Collector, Durbhunga; Babu Succhitadanunda Mukerji, Special Deputy Collector, Faridpore; Mr. P. T. Rebello, Special Deputy Collector, Shahabad, Babu Kedar Nath Mukerji Special Deputy Collector, Sarun; Babu Pitamber Bannerji, Special Deputy Collector, Pubna; and Babu Kanti Bhusan Sen, Special Deputy Collecter, Bengal-Nagpur-Railway.

The following gentlemen, who are probationers in the Subordinate Executive Service, are appointed to act, until further orders, as Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, are posted to the Sudder Stations of the Districts mentioned opposite their names:—

Babu Banku Behary Singh, M, A., B. L.. Balasore; and Babu Rakhal Chunder Banerji, B. A., Furridpore.

Mr. C. R. Marriott, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Pubna, is appointed to act as Collector of Customs Calcutta, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J. Scobell Armstrong or until further orders.

Mr. Marriott will continue to act, until further orders, in the third grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Captain J. F Macnair Commandant, Calcutta Light-house, is allowed leave of absence for eight months, with effect from the 14th instant.

Lieutenant W. K. Eddis, is appointed to act as a Commandant of the Calcutta Light-horse, during the absence, on leave, of Captain J. F. Macnair, or until further orders.

Mr. H. P. Peterson, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Furridpore, is allowed furlough for eighteen months, under Article 340(b) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 5th May, 1891, or such subquent date as he may avail himself of it.

Lieutenant H. B. Spooner, Calcutta, Volunteer Rifle Corps, is allowed leave of absence for six months, with effect from the 23rd instant.

Mr. H. Cox, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is transferred to Kurseong in the District of Darjiling,

Mr A H Collins, Joint Magistrate and DeputyCollector, Dacca, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Jessore, during the absence, on deputation of Mr H F Matthews, or until further orders.

Mr W R Bright, Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhaugulpore, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Monghyr, during the absence, on leave, of Mr R M Waller, or until further orders.

Mr H A D Phillips, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Mymensing, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 12th March 1891, vice Mr C W Bolton, on deputation.

Mr R H Renny, Deputy Commissioner, Singhbum, is allowed leave for three months under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 3rd proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr A Earle, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kurseong, Darjiling, is appointed to act as Deputy Commissioner of Singbhum, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. R. Renny, or until further orders.

Mr F R S Collier, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Midnapore, is allowed special leave for six months, under Article 218 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr Romesh Chunder Dutt, Magistrate and Collector, Dinagepre, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Midnapore, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. C. H. Vowell, or until further orders.

Mr P H O'Brien, Temporary Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Dinagepore, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr Romesh Chunder Dutt, or until further orders.

The Hon'ble H J S Cotton, Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Financial and Municipal Departments is allowed furlough for seven months, under Article 840 *(b)* of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 26th instant.

Mr H H Risley, Deputy Commissioner, on special duty, is appointed to act as Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Financial and Municipal Departments, during the absence, on furlough, of the Hon'ble H. J. S. Cotton or until further orders.

This cancels the order of the 10th March, 1891, appointing Mr Risley to act as Magistrate and Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs, and in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Babu Chaku Lal Sircar is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, but will continue in his present appointment as an Assistant Settlement Officer in Orissa.

Babu Hem Chunder Mitter, Sub-Deputy Collector, Ranaghat, Nuddea, is allowed leave for one month under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Babu Sriram Ganguly, Canungoe, is appointed to act as Sub-Deputy Collector, Ranaghat, Nuddia, during the absence, on leave of Babu Hem Chunder Mitter or until further orders.

Babu Komul Narain Chuckerbutty, Sub-Deputy Collector of Chittagong Hill Tracts, is allowed leave for three months, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 1st May next, or from such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Babu Purna Chunder Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed furlough for six months, under Article 371 of the Civil Service Regulations in extension of the furlough granted to him under the order of the 18th November, 1890.

JUDICIAL.—Ar H Cox Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kurseong, Darjiling, is vested with the following powers:—

Powers of a Magistrate of the first class in the Kurseong and Terai (Phansedewah) Thannas, and powers of a Sub-Divisional Officer under Section 36 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Powers under Sections 110, 186, 260 and 524 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Powers of a Small Cause Court Judge to try suits of value not exceeding Rs. 50 in the Kurseong and Phansedewah Thannas.

Powers of a Munsiff and powers to try rent-suits in Kurseong and similar powers in Phansedewah as regards cases transferred by the Deputy Commissioner from the Terai officer's file.

Babu Ram Lal Dass, M. A., B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsiff in the District of Patna, to be ordinarily stationed at Behar, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Gobind Chunder Bysack, or until further orders.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Babu Uma churn Misser of his appointment as an Honorary Magistate of the Tumluk Bench in the District of Midnapore.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Purulia Bench, in the District of Manbhum, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class—

Mr Charles Henry Maseyk and Babu Becharam Nundi.

Babu Bungshidhur Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Moorshedabad, is vested with powers under Section 133 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The following officers are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class:—

Babu Sri Nath Chatterji, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mymensingh;

Babu Succhitanund Mukerji, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergung; Mr P T Rebello, Officiating Deputy Magistrate, and Deputy Collector, Siliguri, Darjiling; Babu Kedar Nath Mukerji, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dinagepore; and Babu Pitambur Banerji, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge,

The following officers are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class:—

Babu Banku Behary Singh, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore; Babu Rakhal Chunder Banerji, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Furridpur; Mr. L T R Lucas, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca; and Mr J A Craven, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Lohardugga.

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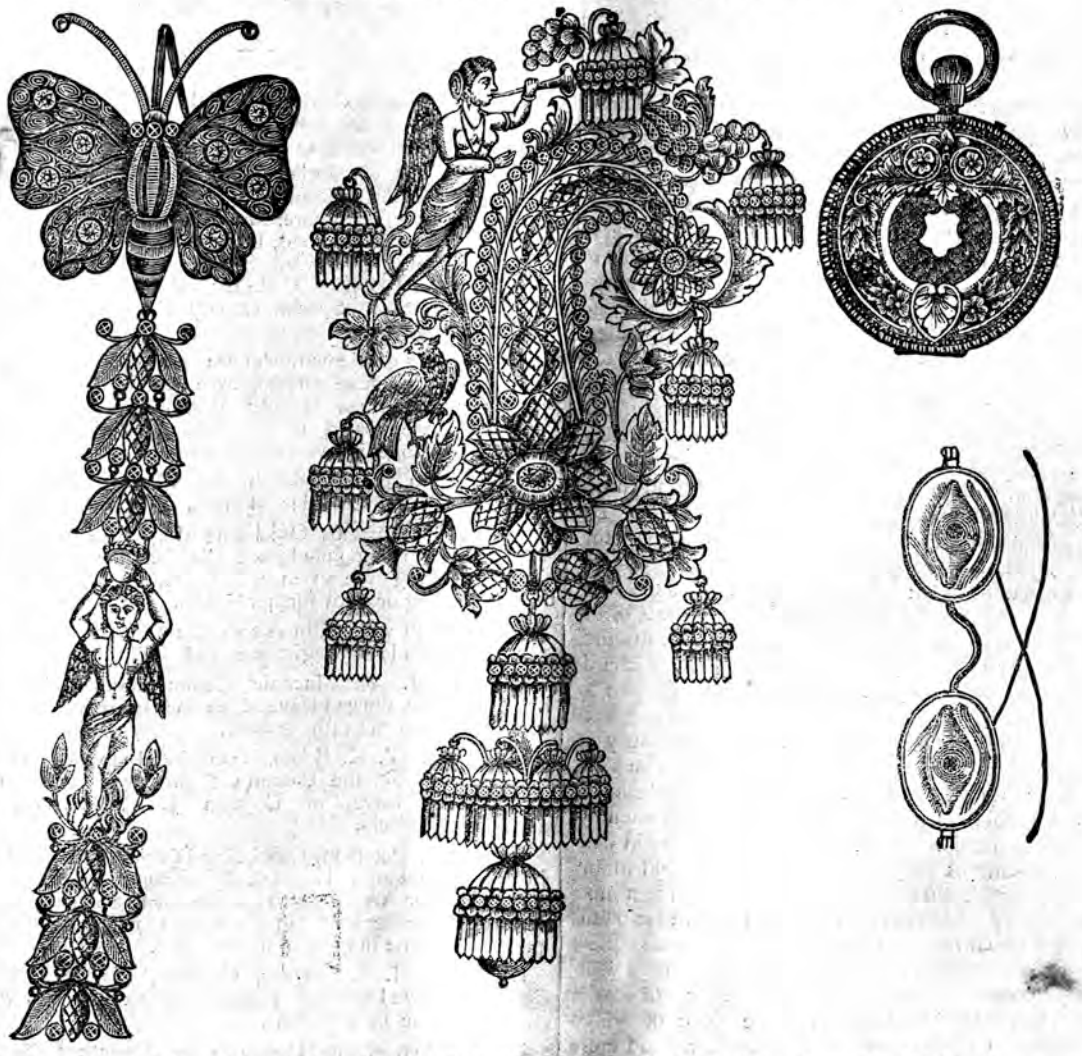

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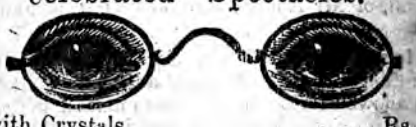

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Printed and Published by Priya Nath Das *at the* Hindoo Patriot Press No. 188/2 Bowbazar Street, Calcutta